Daily Report

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Daily Report
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Korean Vice Minister Addresses Group of 77
SK2306041489 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 23 Jun 89 p 2

[Text] Caracas, Venezuela (Special)—Vice Foreign Minister Sin Tong-won said here Thursday that Korea will further magnify its efforts to assume proper responsibility in the international economy commensurate with its economic capability.

Sin said that the Korean Government has implemented a series of economic cooperation programs to share its development experience and technology with member states of the Group of 77.

In his address to the special ministerial meeting of the Group of 77, Sin revealed that Korea has received more than 3,600 foreign trainees from 113 countries and sent about 400 Korean experts to 54 countries.

Sin further said that the programs of the Economic Development Cooperation Fund in Korea have now become an integral part of the nation's development policies.

Pointing out that the world economy is undergoing structural changes, Sin said that the Group of 77 should establish the order of its priorities before implementing programs.

He further suggested that the Group of 77 take up first those programs which could reflect the balanced interests of different groups of countries in the world.

"At the same time, priority should be given to those programs which could produce early and tangible benefits for developing countries," he added.

Sin said that Korea believes the future direction of the Group of 77 should be more issue-and-action-oriented and the future activities be of a viable and realistic nature.

"In light of the important role technology plays in economic development, technical cooperation among developing countries should be stepped up as a major component of development cooperation programs in the Caracas Programs of Action," he said.

"In this respect, the Korean delegation is fully supportive of the on-going process of exploring ways and means of enhancing the efficiency of the activities of the Group of 77," he added.

The vice foreign minister also said that the economic achievements of developing countries have remained far behind their aspirations largely because of the unfavorable international economic environment.

Under the current structural imbalance between the South and the North, it is difficult for developing countries to release themselves from the vicious circle of sluggish economic growth and rapid rise in external debt, he said.

Sin expressed the hope that the recent initiatives taken by some developed countries will soon take concrete shape and become effective instruments in reducing the external debt of developing countries.

Loan Extended to Inter-American Development Bank
OW2306065689 Tokyo KYODO in English 0209 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Text] Washington, June 22 KYODO—The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) said Friday it has received a 30 billion yen syndicated loan from a group of Japanese banks for debt-ridden South American countries.

The 15-year loan, lead managed by the Bank of Tokyo and Dai-Ichi Mutual Life Insurance Company, carries an annual interest rate of 5.7 percent.

It is the 12th such loan to the IDB from Japanese banks. Total outstanding loans amount to 713 billion yen, according to the IDB.

Cuba

Reportage on Situation With General Ochoa

Contingent Supports Punishment

FL2606223889 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 Jun 89

[Text] The members of the Blas Roca Calderio contingent have sent a message to Fidel and Raul concerning the editorial published in GRANMA. The text of the message expresses that the workers of that contingent fully back the editorial. It also states the workers' confidence in the commander in chief, Raul, and the other members of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo and Central Committee.

The contingent also affirms, with revolutionary pride, its willingness to fulfill all of the established production goals and to exchange picks for rifles and bulldozers for tanks if it were necessary.

The Blas Roca Calderio contingent demands exemplary punishment for the traitor Ochoa and his group of accomplices.

First Hearing Begins

FL2606142089 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1120 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Text] The Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] honor tribunal began its session as scheduled yesterday, Sunday [25 June] at 1000 summoned to study the behavior of Division General Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez. This first session of the tribunal began with a report by Army General Raul Castro Ruz, minister of the FAR and second secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee.

Division General Ulises Rosales del Toro is presiding over the tribunal and Division Generals Jesus Bermudez Cutino and Ramon Pardo Guerra are acting as secretary and member, respectively. Forty-four other officers of the highest level of our FAR composed this tribunal, which is in charge of recommending the leadership of the party, state, and government the measures to follow in line with the seriousness of the acts in which General Ochoa carried out.

Following are moments of the development of this process which includes a summary of the report presented by Army General Raul Castro Ruz to the military honor tribunal.

[Begin recording] [Video shows room with Division Generals Jesus Bermudez Cutino, Ulises Rosales del Toro, and Ramon Pardo Guerra sitting at the presiding table facing the group of FAR officers. Division General Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez is seated in front of the FAR officers facing the presiding table.]

[Rosales del Toro] In fulfilling FAR minister's Order No 016 of 1989, this hearing begins. The hearing will analyze the charges brought against Div Gen Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez. This military honor tribunal is made up of Div Gen Ulises Rosales del Toro as president, Div Gen Jesus Bermudez Cutino as secretary, and Div Gen Ramon Pardo Guerra as member.

Comrade Secretary, report how many comrades should be present and how many are actually present.

[Bermudez Cutino] Comrade President: The 47 generals and admirals who should participate in this military honor tribunal hearing are all present. The eight witnesses who have to testify are also present.

[Rosales del Toro] The comrade members of the tribunal present during the hearing have the right to ask questions or make remarks. You will be given your turn at the appropriate time.

Comrade Secretary: Read the document which contains the charges which brought about the beginning of these proceedings.

[Bermudez Cutino] The charges brought against Div Gen Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez which will be analyzed by this military honor tribunal today are the following: [medium-shot of Ochoa]

First, his independent participation and joint participation with Interior Ministry officers in contacts with international drug traffickers—planning, reaching agreements, and other events related to this activity, which were already reported in detail to the people—casting a slur on Cuba's moral and international prestige, and even endangering the safety of our country;

Second, dishonest management of economic resources, improper use, squandering, and waste of foreign currency by taking advantage of his high military hierarchy;

Third, his responsibility for the influence he exerted over officers who worked directly with him leading them to commit criminal acts;

Fourth, the grave faults of moral nature, dissipation, and corruption in which he incurred;

Fifth, the lack of compliance of orders and directions given by FAR minister and the lack of compliance with the reiterated warnings given for his inappropriate behavior.

[Rosales del Toro] Now, the minister of the FAR will present the necessary information so that those present and the tribunal will be able to count with all the elements that will allow the tribunal to come to a conclusion. [All present stand up as Raul Castro approaches the podium.]

[Raul Castro] You can be seated, comrades. [All present sit down.]

Comrade President of the Honor Tribunal and comrade generals:

I appear before this honor tribunal to help study the facts that led to the arrest of Div Gen Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez last 12 June, as well as other much more serious facts learned later, which we believe you must be aware of to reach a consensus and make the appropriate recommendations.

Of course, the members of the court will be able to carry out their duty fully after hearing testimony from the witnesses, the facts, and views each one of you may have to add, and the willingness of Gen Ochoa to assume his responsibilities.

In order to grant priority to those aspects of the case dealing with Div Gen Ochoa's conduct, which because of their nature cannot be aired publicly, I request the court president, Div Gen Ulises Rosales del Toro, to incorporate as official documents into this court proceeding the transcripts of the conversations held between Gen Ochoa and me on 29 May and 2 June, the content of which you all know, as well as the full text of the editorial published in the 22 June edition of the GRANMA newspaper.

In view of the lengthy expose outlined in that editorial regarding Gen Ochoa's personal participation in international drug trafficking, I will not dwell here on the details of this shameful aspect of Arnaldo Ochoa's conduct. This does not preclude any of you from referring to them should you deem it necessary.

Comrade generals: For all of us, this is a bitter duty. When not a single comrade of the rebel army and those with over 30 years in the FAR could even imagine that a combatant with the background and merits of Arnaldo Ochoa could, through his conduct, tarnish the work of the people, he already knew it was being done. If there is something that Ochoa cannot allege before this tribunal, it is ignorance of the gravity and consequences of his actions.

Step by step, not heeding any of the criticisms, warnings, or appeals, Ochoa set out on a path of no return that led him to degrade the revolutionary honor of a soldier in our socialist state. Thus, he betrayed himself above all. [medium-shot of Ochoa showing him with his head down]

I must admit in all sincerity that the evidence of the violations and irregularities Ochoa was committing in carrying out his duties as chief were mixed and confused with his temperament and some particular traits of his personality that made it difficult to distinguish his true way of thinking from his constant jokes. We later clearly established how Ochoa turned his blabbering and his habit of boasting about anything into a tool to try to justify to us—in between serious remarks and jokes—his absurd ideas. He tried to pass them off as jokes out of fear of the listener's reaction to his true thoughts, which he was seriously expressing.

We first called his attention to this behavior at a very early stage, around 1970, when we attributed this attitude to superficiality and immaturity.

It became necessary over time to remind him of this, but it was useless. Unfortunately, this is how, in a not-so-small circle of chiefs, his image was seriously damaged, because nobody should behave like this, much less a general, and think that anyone will take him seriously.

In view of the degradation and extremes of the current situation, we wonder if we might not have realized sooner, considering his verbosity, that Ochoa was developing customs, habits, and practices that were giving him a penchant for corruption.

Ochoa was certainty criticized more than other high-ranking Armed Forces officers for violations, which of course, were not sufficiently serious to warrant taking more severe measures against him or to prevent him from performing his important duties.

A key element in Arnaldo Ochoa's later behavior was his growing and obsessive desire in recent years to engage in commercial activities and the most unusual businesses, and his pathetic self-appraisal of his abilities in the field. He surely confused the opportunities and prerogatives that his rank and positions offered him with the talent for business he thought he had. This defect became evident during his last tour in Angola. [medium and close-up shot of Ochoa, with this head down, occasionally looking at his hand]

Only he can explain—that is, if he has already been able to explain it to himself—how his highest goal became to turn himself into a typical capitalist entrepreneur. His role models were no longer the most devoted cadres of the Revolution or the humble men of our country who have subordinated themselves under various circumstances and were examples of heroism and devotion.

Ochoa's behavior was concealed behind an apparent concern over the living conditions of the troops that actually served to disguise an unbridled desire to amass money and carry on business, even if these were illegal businesses that violated the norms, regulation, and laws, even of friendly nations, thus betraying the trust of their governments, as in the case of the confirmed contraband of ivory and diamonds.

Except for the infamous drug issue, which at the time we still did not know about, these were, basically, the topics of our first conversation with him, which lasted over 3 hours on 29 May. As you well know, Army Corps General Abelardo Colome Ibarra and Div Gen Ulises Rosales del Toro were present. At that time, we confirmed our belief that it was obvious that it was impossible to trust the command of the Western Army to Ochoa, who had been preparing himself for this job for several months after his return from Angola.

Even at that moment—and I say this with absolute sincerity—we had hopes that he would recognize his errors, keeping in mind his past accomplishments, by virtue of which we thought it might be possible to keep him with us.

In other words, we were still considering the possibility of giving him an opportunity. Of course, he would never have the same level of responsibility he had had until then, because we were already convinced that Ochoa was

no longer the rebel soldier, the invader of Camilo's column, the internationalist in Venezuela, the commander of our troops in Ethiopia. On the contrary, we had before us someone who had participated in a vast array of irregular activities, deceits, and other errors. At the time, those actions were not yet classified as grave criminal acts, but as faults from which we still thought he could recover with help, as we have done with other comrades. We believed that we should do everything possible so that the Revolution and the Armed Forces would not lose a comrade with this background and accomplishments.

I want to stress that at that time we had signs, but no proof yet, of serious moral flaws in his personal behavior that could indicate—if they were true—an ethical degradation, which led us to fear that he might desert, although this seemed hard to believe of a man with his record. It became necessary, regardless of the outcome of the case, for the FAR to assign him to a task that would keep him under control.

The facts regarding his personal conduct were later fully proven and you are aware of them. However, we have decided not to mention these facts in this report so as to not adversely affect innocent persons who would have to carry the burden, the scandal of such unpleasant faults would bring.

Meanwhile, we were receiving reports of his unlimited popularity in recent months, though he had not yet assumed command of the Western Army. Ochoa was already making himself known, distributing gifts and valuables, mainly to officers, ignoring the established norms with a delirious self-indulgence and creating an image and debts of gratitude for himself with a total absence of principles or ethics, leaving behind him a trail of corruption. [medium-shot of Ochoa, with his head down]

In Angola, he combined this practice of giving gifts through misappropriation and manipulation of financial resources with a corrosive verbosity that disappointed when it did not confuse or demoralize.

Blinded by vanity during crucial moments of the war—when, fortunately, our General Staff was leading through the commander in chief and Division General Leopolodo Cintras Frias, who was in charge of the southern front—Ochoa, whose job was to strengthen the fighting morale of the officers and chiefs under his command, would speak at length to practically anyone. He would sometimes present himself as a victim, saying, and I quote, I quote his words [repeats]: "I have been sent to a lost war so that I will be blamed for the defeat." On other occasions, he posed as military and political strategist, a savior of the Republic, and became very critical by saying we were too honest and we were not taking advantage of business such as money laundering.

This improper and unworthy practice of a responsible leader would change at times when he became obsessed wit the idea of carrying out businesses, for which he did not stop before any legal or moral barrier, while establishing unauthorized ties with foreigners of very doubtful political integrity.

I will abstain from enumerating again the many specific cases of commercial operations that appear in the transcripts of the two conversations I had with Ochoa prior to his arrest, and I will refer the court to the testimony of the witnesses who will appear before you.

As it has been noted, Ochoa reserved his best time to map out and promote, through his aide, Captain Jorge Martinez Valdes, the delirious plan of becoming a drug czar, as was explained in great detail to our people in the newspaper editorial published in GRANMA on Thursday [22 June]. Martinez turned out to be the only FAR officer involved in that mad adventure.

Also, and although in no way it excuses them from responsibility, it is logical to imagine the impunity and morale boost that individuals already involved in drug trafficking, such as Colonel Tony la Guardia and his group of the MC [expansion unknown] Department of the Interior Ministry, must have felt when they learned that a man with the accomplishments and prestige of Ochoa, was on the same path and was asking for their cooperation.

We must, however, reflect seriously on the corrupt influence that he exerted on officers who worked directly under him. His evil influence transformed the role that each chief has toward his subordinates, to educate them and set an example, dragging them to crime and promoting their complicity. We will hear very eloquent testimonies in that respect during the sessions of this court.

When we learned of these facts—above all after the arrest of Ochoa and others who have been implicated—we were able to undertake a thorough investigation. Later our people went from a state of perplexity to disbelief, to dismay. These logical feelings, however, immediately gave way to a deeper indignation and the conviction that it is imperative to mete out an examplary punishment. [medium-shot of Ochoa, with his head down]

Arnaldo Ochoa's actions cannot tarnish the heroic internationalist contribution of our people in Angola, because it is the work of hundreds of thousands of men who carried out their duty and accomplished the mission entrusted to them by the Revolution. But it is truly shameful and outrageous to think that, during the very harsh days faced by our fighters in the Cuito Cuanavale epic, Ochoa frantically engaged in contacting and coordinating with the international drug traffickers, made improper use of the resources provided to him, and engaged in immoral and corrupt practices incompatible with the principles of the Revolution.

These are some of the most serious actions for which Arnaldo Ochoa must answer.

When we sat down with him to talk for the first time, we still harbored a small hope that he would understand the significance of that opportunity.

We kept that hope alive when he later asked to speak with me alone on 2 June. I was totally sincere with him when, after the first and long conversation with him, I hugged him—I repeat, I hugged him—and I told him that no matter what happened, we would be his brothers—today, tomorrow, and always. Today we are painfully convinced that our hopes were unfounded, that Arnaldo Ochoa could not be saved. [medium-shot of Ochoa, with his head down]

Ochoa did not have the moral quality that was needed to tell me at that time that he had amassed tens of thousands of dollars, most of which were already outside the country, including at least $50,000 obtained directly from drug trafficking, with which he stained his hands forever.

To confess these crimes, he would first have had to admit that he exposed our country's prestige, authority, and morale—which are the pillars of the strength and security of a state such as Cuba—to a provocation of catastrophic consequences when he converted a FAR captain into his envoy before one of the main and most famous drug lords in Colombia.

In sum, he should have admitted his betrayal to the Cuban people, to our party, to the FAR, and his unprecedented disloyalty to our commander in chief, Comrade Fidel.

However, Ochoa still has an opportunity today, not to repay his comrades and his people, because he does not have enough time in his lifetime to make up for this. There is no way to compensate his total disloyalty. He has, however, the possibility of leaving to his children a self-critical analysis and a reflection. This will help his children understand the unmistakable fairness of the decision of this tribunal and of the military tribunal that will judge him. In the future, this will allow them to face life not just with the pain and the heavy burden imposed on them, but also with the understanding of the significance of this gesture.

We are thinking of this possibility based on his attitude during a meeting he had on Father's Day with his noble and pure children while he was in prison.

If today he remains faithful to the statements he made—in the presence of the instructor and in a moment of honesty and emotion—to [his children] Yanina, Diana, and Alejandrito, and if he is capable of talking like that not only in the privacy of that meeting but also before this tribunal, helping us all understand the origin and development of this process of degradation, then his physical presence before this tribunal will have a true meaning.

For all those reasons, he must be judged by this honor tribunal.

We hope that each one of the 47 generals that make up this court will express his opinion regarding the charges filed against him and will make a decision according to the regulations of military honor courts.

This infamous list of grave crimes and disloyalties is in fact an outrage, a treacherous stab, and a slap in the face of the fatherland.

It will be this court's responsibility to decide if, in light of his conduct, he is still worthy of bearing the honorable title of "Hero of the Republic of Cuba" and keeping the other orders, medals, and decorations bestowed on him, and if he should continue to hold the rank of division general and his position as a member of our glorious and heroic FAR.

It will also be your duty to submit to the party's leadership the court's opinion regarding his status as party member and his status as member of the party's Central Committee.

From Angola, our loyal internationalist fighters have sent us a combative and encouraging message under these bitter circumstances, part of which I wish to read to this court, and I quote: "The force of revolutionary law should fall upon Arnaldo Ochoa. His military record, far from diminishing his crimes, makes them worse, as he betrayed the honor and confidence bestowed upon him," end of quote.

Comrade generals, let us exemplarily wash away this outrage to which Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez has subjected the fatherland, the party, and the FAR.

Comrade President of the Honor Tribunal, I have concluded my report.

[Rosales del Toro] Comrade Secretary, proceed to receive the document the minister is presenting. [end recording]

The first session of the military honor tribunal ended at 1830. The military honor tribunal was summoned in accordance with the rules governing the FAR to analyze the behavior of Div Gen Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez.

During its first session, the tribunal composed of 47 generals of the FAR and presided over by Div Gen Ulises Rosales del Toro, heard a report presented by FAR minister, Army General Raul Castro Ruz.

The following eight witnesses attended and responded to the questions posed by the tribunal: Colonel Rafael Morales Velazquez, Colonel (Teudis Trutie Matias), Colonel (Antonio Rodriguez Estupinan), Colonel (Omelio Perez Rivero), Lieutenant Colonel (Arnaldo Morejon Platt), Captain (Jose L. Yicas Papadedis), and Captain Jorge Martinez Valdes—all members of the FAR—as well as Brigade General Patricio de la Guardia Font, from the Interior Ministry.

During this first session, Div Gen Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez made a statement and responded to questions. He accepted all charges and assumed the responsibilities for the charges of grave crimes and violations brought against him.

All the generals who compose the tribunal will participate today. The FAR Ministry reported that Division General Ramon Espinosa Martin and Julio Casas Regueiro originally appeared as members of the tribunal but are not part of it because they will be members of the military tribunal alter. Brigade General Filiberto Olivera Moya and Brigade General Rigoberto Sancho Valladares were appointed to replace them.

As it has been reported, the military honor tribunal will make the appropriate recommendations to the higher levels of the party, state, and government regarding the case of Div Gen Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez. The essential details of the case have been informed to our people and the international public opinion.

Honor Tribunal Recommendations

FL2706123089 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 Jun 89

[Text] Following are the conclusions reached by the military honor tribunal of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] summoned to analyze the conduct of Division General Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez.

This military honor tribunal created to analyze the grave infringement behavior of Div Gen Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez, after hearing what was said by FAR minister, Army General Raul Castro Ruz, the defendant, witnesses, investigators, and generals who participated in the proceedings, has arrived to the following conclusions:

Div Gen Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez has incurred in grave faults to the honor and dignity of his status of superior officer of the FAR betraying the trust placed on him by the people, the Revolution, the party, and his comrades. This constitutes a more repudiable fact. For this reason, severe disciplinary and legal measures should be implemented. His direct and intentional participation in the grave charges linking him individually or jointly with MININT [Interior Ministry] officers in international drug trafficking has been proven. This, as it has been said, damages Cuba's morale and international prestige, and more seriously, our country's safety. Also proven were the serious faults of moral nature and corruption, dishonest business, improper use and squandering of economic resources, obsessive persistence in illicit businesses, involving subordinate officers, and the noncompliance of orders and indications given by the FAR minister. Therefore, this military honor tribunal, using the legal and prescribed authority conferred to it, resolves:

First, to propose to the FAR minister to take to the Council of State the request that the honorary title of "Hero of the Republic of Cuba" and other orders, medals, and decorations bestowed on Ochoa be taken away. That the FAR minister ask the president of state and government and commander in chief to strip Ochoa from the rank of division general and dishonorably discharge him from the FAR; that Ochoa be turned over to the special military tribunal, according to Article 5 of the Military Tribunals Law, so that he be tried for high treason to the fatherland and that all the weight of the law falls on him considering the extreme seriousness of his crimes.

Second, to recommend political organizations and the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP], considering the gravity of the acts, his expulsion from the party and, therefore, from its Central Committee, as well as dismissing him as ANPP deputy.

Signed, the 47 members of the military honor tribunal.

Castro To Attend Menem's Swearing-In Ceremony

FL2606105889 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2259 GMT 25 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 25 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Cuban President Fidel Castro will attend the swearing-in ceremony of Argentine President-elect Carlos Menem on 8 July. This was confirmed by President-elect Menem himself.

Before leaving for Montevideo, where he met with Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti, Menem said he did not know if Chilean President General Augusto Pinochet will also attend the swearing-in ceremony.

This will be the Cuban leader's second visit since the triumph of the Revolution in his country in 1959. At the beginning of the sixties he met with the then President Arturo Frondizi in this capital. [passage omitted]

Soviet Ambassador Tours Ciego de Avila

FL2606101089 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 Jun 89

[Text] The Soviet ambassador to Cuba and member of the CPSU Central Committee, Yuriy Petrov, has toured Ciego de Avila Province. Alfredo Hondal Gonzalez, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and party first secretary in the province, gave the Soviet diplomat a briefing on the province's present development.

Later, Petrov toured the pineapple enterprise, biotechnology laboratory and its plantations where he valued the sprinkler system with (Bregad) machinery. He also visited the causeway works and the Cayo Coco beaches were he praised the beauty of the water and the fineness of the sand.

In addition, he met with Soviet technicians and specialists who are contributing in this sector.

Price Study Delegation Visits Berlin

FL2606222089 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1955 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Text] Today, the GDR's first deputy chairman, Gunther Kleiber, and Cuba's minister president of the State Committee for Prices, Arturo Guzman Pascual, held a meeting in Berlin to exchange views on the work being done in that sector.

According to media reports from Berlin, during the talks, Kleiber explained to Guzman how price policies for primary goods are developed in the GDR. Kleiber also talked about rent and public service rates which have been stable for over 25 years. This, said Kleiber, represents a conquest by socialism in our state.

According to the same media reports, Guzman is in the GDR heading a delegation that is carrying out a price study visit. This visit will last for several days.

150 More Internationalists Arrive From Angola

FL2606192089 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Text] The fatherland was once more feeling grateful and proud when it welcomed some 150 of its best children last night [25 June] arriving from the People's Republic of Angola. Interior Ministry Division General German Barciro Carames and Brigade General Rene Nunez Alvarado from the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] went to the military airport to welcome them. With the arrival of this new group, Cuba continues to strictly comply with the timetable for gradual withdrawal of troops in accordance with the agreements signed last December.

Seventy-four of the soldiers have won the Internationalist Combatant Medal, first class, and 75 the second class; 10 have the Cuito Cuanavale Defense Medal; and 61 have the FAR Distinguished Service Award. The Antonio Maceo and Calixto Garcia Orders were awarded to pilot (Jorge Rodriguez Marquetti) for his outstanding participation in the actions in Cahama.

To you dear comrades, once more, welcome.

Oil Well in Matanzas Ignites; Damage Reported

FL2606204489 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1939 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Text] A fire of considerable proportions began at about 0100 today in group K-14's well No 602. This well is located approximately 1 km from the Oasis Hotel which is at the entrance of Varadero Beach, Matanzas.

The flames reached up to 30 meters in height, but are now smaller because they are being subdued by over 100 Ministry of the Interior [MININT] and Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] members from Matanzas and Havana Provinces.

In an interview with Radio Reloj, the head geologist, Enrique Saca, said that when a small coat of the hydrocarbon surfaced, the well began to function unexpectedly. He said that this is a phenomenon known as surging [surgencia] and caused the fire which started within 2 minutes and caused the well tower to fall within 5 minutes.

Specialists say that the fire will be put out by the MININT and FAR members within 72 hours. Events like this frequently happen in oil fields around the world, Saca added.

Caribbean Affairs

Cuban, Soviet Journalists Want Regional Exchange

FL2606180089 Bridgetown CANA in English 1642 GMT 25 Jun 89

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Jun 25, CANA—A Cuban and a Soviet journalist have lamented the dearth of information on the Caribbean in their countries and called for more exchanges with the region.

Juan Dufflar Amel, [name as received] head of the international department of "TRABAJADORES," a newspaper of the Cuban Confederation of Trade Unions and Sergey Trofimenko, Caribbean correspondent of NOVOSTI press agency, based in Guyana, were addressing a seminar here organised by the Caribbean Association of Media Workers, the Barbados Association of Journalists and the International Organisation of Journalists.

"Cuba gets news from many countries of the world but we hear only a little from the Caribbean," Dufflar Amel told the session on different media perspectives. "I have a pan Caribbean vision and hope for better relationship between the Caribbean and Latin America," he said. Dufflar Amel spoke of a "significant political role" for journalists since the 1959 revolution that brought Fidel Castro to power. He said the media in Cuba was founded on the principles of the rights to information and freedom of speech as well as being social or state property for the benefit of the society.

Trofimenko said that since 1985 with the coming to power of Mikhail Gorbachev, the principles of perestroyka, glasnost, and democracy, a spirit of open discussion had been encouraged in the Soviet Union among media workers. "We have changed from the position of providing many right sounding words to objective analysis and reporting," he said, noting that the press could hardly be freer than the society in which it existed.

The seeming difference in the position between the socialist allies, sparked warm debate among the English-speaking Caribbean journalists.

Trofimenko quoted Gorbachev and the head of the TASS news agency as saying the Soviet press was part of the checks and balances on the state and, "will be the socialist opposition." He lamented the last of information on the Caribbean, noting that the last published item on Barbados he could find was in 1981. The Soviet journalist suggested more exchanges of information and personnel by his country and the Caribbean to bridge the current new gap.

Dominica

Opposition Calls for Funding of Radio Antilles

FL2606164589 Bridgetown CANA in English 2005 GMT 24 Jun 89

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, June 24, CANA—Dominica's opposition leader Micheal Douglas has called on Caribbean governments to fund a short-term rescue operation to ensure the immediate survival and editorial independence of Radio Antilles, a German-owned, Montserrat-based station in danger of closing. "In the medium- and long-term, to ensure the independence of the radio station, the regional people, either through our trade unions, our political parties, our churches, our different women's organizations, and different associations of industry and commerce (should buy shares in Radio Antilles)," Douglas said. "All these regional publics should contribute to buying the shares in Radio Antilles so that no one particular organization can dominate, so that you can ensure the independence of the radio station."

He expressed concern that the United States Government's Voice of America Radio had expressed the wish to go in partnership with the Montserrat-based Radio Antilles which might lose the funding of its West German principals by year end. "If Voice of America is going to put money into Radio Antilles in a way to guarantee its survival, then clearly we have to understand that the person who pays the piper calls the tune," the opposition leader said.

Douglas feels that if Voice of America is going to take over Radio Antilles and support it financially, "then the kinds of information that you are going to be hearing over Radio Antilles will be the kind of information that the Americans want you to hear, which might be good for us or not good for us."

The Barbados-based Caribbean News Agency has also reported it is interested in getting involved in the Radio Antilles operation. Some Caribbean governments have welcomed this.

Douglas spoke about Radio Antilles while delivering an address at the opening of a one day seminar of the Labour Women's Organization, the women's arm of his Dominica Labour Party. "...Radio Antilles has given an independent voice to a number of politicians in the region, and political parties who would not have had the same kind of voice on (their) national radio stations, by definition being controlled by the governments," Douglas contended. "Radio Antilles has (contributed to) democracy in the region, because really this is what it is, the capacity for people to hear both sides of the story. "Radio Antilles has given democracy a chance in the region, and therefore it is incumbent on all of us, those of us who are in opposition today and expect to be in government tommorrow, and those of us who are in government today and may be in opposition tomorrow."

Haiti

LAAPH's Duval: U.S. Projects 'Interference'

FL2606203789 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Text] A half-dozen popular organizations have chosen today, Friday 23 June, to provide a day of information on potential projects to annex Haitian territory. Rothschild interviewed one of the movement's organizers, Bobby Duval of the League of Former Haitian Political Prisoners [LAPPH].

[Begin Duval recording, in Creole] We want to cast light on several cases of flagrant interference in the nation's internal affairs, and even of attacks on the national sovereignty. That is why we are having a day of reflection.

Tomorrow we will have several stands [preceding word in English], information booths. There will be four or five of them: one on Mole Saint Nicolas, one on (La Navase), [small island off the southern coast of Haiti] one on La Tortue island, and also one on the American university in Les Cayes—because we also consider that this university in Les Cayes constitutes flagrant meddling in the nation's internal affairs. It's a military plan. I mean, the same people who set up the American University of Beirut are setting up the university in Les Cayes. That is, the American university in Les Cayes is a military plan.

We have a certain amount of information to reveal about all these things, which are interconnected. Know what I mean? I mean, it is not by chance that this Lund thing has come up now. It is not by chance that there are current attempts to annex Haitian territory.

Thus, through tomorrow, we are going to try to cast some light on these things for the general public. That is why we call it a day of information. [end recording]

LAAPH leader Robert Duval also thinks that the day is going to sensitize national public opinion to this danger and to the insult that the annexation of a territory represents.

[Begin Duval recording, in Creole] I think that this subject of American imperialism, which is systematically trying to, shall we say, strategically employ Haitian territory.... [changes thought] It applies a lot of pressure to Haiti's governments. Sometimes it dictates to them what they are to do, and things like that. And our leaders traditionally always make a vassal of the national territory. Thus, we ourselves are trying to denounce this situation, so as to make people become aware of certain things, of everything that is going on.

That is why we have tried to find documents. We are going to document all our research. We have found documents that reveal these people's real intentions. For example, we got into the matter of (La Navase), historically.

We have done much research, and we are going to inform the public about the real situation, about what is really going on, and about what the real stories are. [end recording]

We point out that peasants from the island of La Tortue, target of the U.S. company Lund International, will be participating in this day of reflection. They are also going to state their position on this matter.

According to Bobby Duval, this morning's session is going to be the first of an entire series of activities that are going to be organized in order to enlighten national public opinion about the plans to annex Haitian territory.

We remind listeners that Prosper Avril's government has formally denied having had any contact whatsoever with foreign entrepreneurs in connection with transferring over La Tortue island. The government has also announced that should such a request be made, the government would refer to the Constitution of 1987. This Constitution stipulates in Article 8, Paragraph 1, that no portion of the national territory may be annexed.

Jamaica To Play Role in Democratic Solution

FL2606172089 Bridgetown CANA in English 2058 GMT 25 Jun 89

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, June 26, CANA—Jamaica, and particularly Prime Minister Michael Manley, have a crucial role to play in helping Haiti's search for a democratic solution, general secretary of the Barbados-based Caribbean Conference of Churches, Rev Allan Kirton, said here Sunday.

Kirton, just back from an eight-day goodwill mission to the troubled Haitian state, today presented the group's final communique to an executive meeting of the Caribbean Media Worker's Association. "I believe that, in the next few weeks, the role of Jamaica is going to be crucial," Kirton told regional journalists. He referred to respect given by Haiti to Manley and Jamaica as likely to have the most impact of the Caribbean Community [Caricom] countries in helping Haiti resolve its problems.

The CCC communique in the June 9 to 16 visit noted recent overtures by Haiti in seeking help from the 13-nation Caricom grouping. The team said that Haitian leader, General Prosper Avril, had told the mission that Haiti wanted Caricom and CCC recognition. "It must also be considered as a sign of the leverage which regional institutions have in relation to Haiti," the communique said.

The document recommended a wait-and-see position for Caricom during which time the regional grouping could formulate a series of conditions aimed at democratic reform in Haiti. Such conditions would include "credible" gestures to bring known criminals to justice, the setting up of a system of financial accounting for funds sent to Haiti, establishment of a programme for democratic reform, and putting together a timetable for elections with guarantees for safety.

The CCC suggested that the United States could play a role in making guarantees of safety at every stage of the move to an electoral process. Caricom's role, said the CCC, could be in establishing clear minimum standards which Haiti would have to meet to acquire recognition by the regional body.

The CCC recommended that the people of the region and the regional media continue to express support for the Haitian people who, it said, still hold out hope for reform despite two disastrous attempts at elections and continued violence in that country. Stating that the church in Haiti was the one institution capable of giving leadership since the collapse of the Army, the CCC offered its services to bring together the various religious bodies for consultation. In the report, the CCC cited as positive steps towards freedom of expression, Haiti's reintroduction of its Constitution, appointment of a new Electoral Council, and attempts to deal with drug trafficking.

"All of this notwithstanding the overall conclusion to which we have arrived is of a country which is characterised by economic and social decline and disintegration which are as far-reaching as they are disastrous in their consequences," the CCC communique said. The CCC mission is comprised of St Lucian journalist Earl Bousquet, first vice-president of the Caribbean Association of Media Worker's (Camwork), University of the West Indies (UWI) international relations specialist, Dr Rosina Wiltshire, CCC's northern region co-ordinator, Mike James, and Barbadian lawyer Philip Pilgrim.

Media Reportedly Cut Off From Information

FL2606154189 Bridgetown CANA in English 1609 GMT 25 Jun 89

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Jun 24, CANA—The news director of Haiti's Roman Catholic Radio Soleil, Ives Marie Chanel, says while freedom of expression has improved in his country since the departure of Francois "Bebe Doc" Duvalier only a small portion of the population is able to receive media broadcasts and obtain papers.

He described to members of the Caribbean Media Workers Association on the final day of a two-day seminar here Saturday, a nation with a multiplicity of media houses, in particular radio stations, but with low transmission capability, power outages, undercapitalisation, and illiteracy affecting their effectiveness. "Haiti is cut off from information on Haitian communities outside the country, because of the small pay to correspondents," Chanel explained.

He told of an incident in the Dominican Republic, Haiti's neighbour on the island of Hispaniola, last January when 48 Haitians died in a traffic accident but Haitian media had great difficulty in obtaining information about the incident.

Chanel reported police intimidation of the press, particularly during the first five months of this year in the capital, Port-au-Prince and the third largest centre of Gonaives. But he noted that three years after the departure of the dictator, Duvalier, groups in the country turned to the press as a crutch to lean on in an environment where no clear leadership had emerged to weld the country together, and human rights groups were ineffective.

"But progress has been made in the three years. The press can't be manipulated as opposition leaders are finding out," Chanel remarked. He said Haiti was isolated from the rest of the Caribbean, principally because of the language barrier.

Modelh/PRDH Press Release on Current Issues

FL2606162589 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] In a press release we received here at our newsroom yesterday, the Democratic Movement for the Liberation of Haiti [Democratic Revolutionary Party of Haiti], Modelh/PRDH, sets forth its position on certain matters currently making the news in Haiti. First, regarding the Haitian agricultural laborers [preceding word in Spanish, "braceros"] in the Dominican Republic, Modelh says certain Dominican authorities have come to Haiti to discuss with the Haitian authorities a new way to recruit Haitians to cut cane during the Dominican sugar harvest [preceding word in Spanish, "zafra"]. Modelh points out that they have come to seek more Haitians, while those already in the Dominican Republic are asking that the Dominican authorities respect their rights, in conformity with international principles—which the Dominican authorities refuse to do.

Regarding La Tortue Island, Modelh says it is in favor of foreign investment in Haiti. However, regarding Haiti's autonomy, this political party feels it must remain entirely intact. Besides, says Modelh, that is what the government itself said in a recent communique.

Regarding educational reform, Modelh says that the formal education of Haitian children should begin in their mother tongue. Modelh says every Haitian should be able to read and write the language he speaks daily. Nevertheless, Haitians should also learn French. Modelh says the government should encourage Creole-language publications.

Regarding the increase in the price of gasoline, Modelh says that gas was already too expensive back when it cost $1.95 per gallon. It has now risen to $2.20. Things have become even more serious, because an increase in the price of gasoline leads to an increase in the cost of transportation—and it is always the poor who have to bear the brunt of the situation. Modelh invites the government to do everything it can to absorb the increase in the price of gasoline on the international market, so as to lower the price per gallon in Haiti.

Youth Group on ANOP, Current Situation

FL2606193189 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Excerpts] A press release from the Democratic Assembly of Patriotic Haitian Youth [Rasanbleman Demokratik Jen Patriotik Ayisyen] points out that more than 3 years ago, the Haitian people rose up to do away with the Presidency for life, repression, injustice, exploitation, and the pillaging of the state coffers.They had hoped that by now, Haitian youth would be able to breath freely, that the sun of justice would have begun to shine for all of them, and that their futures would no longer be eternally tossed about haphazardly like the unlucky little balls that are never drawn at bingo.

However, they see that after 3 years there has been no change at all. On the contrary, things have gotten tougher, according to them. [passage omitted] Instead of everyone getting together to save the nation, personal interests are presently being defended.

They also wonder about the Permanent Electoral Council [CEP], which says that it will hold elections in 18 months. They say: If the CEP members were patriots, they would, first of all, denounce this insecurity prevailing all over Haiti, and they would inform the government that elections are not possible if they do not provide security for everyone. If the government cannot provide security, then all patriots (?should) put their

heads together and find a patriotic government to effect the democratic transition, which should result in unfettered, honest elections at the end of 1989.

They say they take this opportunity to express their support for ANOP [National Alliance of People's Organizations] in its campaign of mobilization against the high cost of living. They also denounce before national and international public opinion the acts of repression being committed by the military against the patriotic militants in ANOP and all other organizations throughout Haiti.

Petit Goave Teachers Refuse To Grade Exams

FL2606162089 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Primary school teachers in Petit Goave yesterday boycotted the grading of exams necessary to obtain the certificate of primary studies after the inspector of the Petit Goave school district accused them of working on behalf of a political party.

[Petit Goave correspondent Max A. Metellus] [Passage omitted] In their boycott of the exams for obtaining the primary studies certificate, which were held on 14 and 15 June 1989, the teachers have said they won't work with the district inspector, who has accused them of engaging in crooked wheeling and dealing and of working on behalf of the political party MDN [Mobilization for National Development].

(Denis Jean-Francois), leader of the MDN regional office in Petit Goave, spoke at a meeting held by the teachers at Sacre Coeur School, saying that every time something went wrong, the MDN was blamed for it. [passage omitted]

Despite this 4-hour meeting, no agreement was reached between the parties.

People here are wondering how far this quarrel between the teachers and the school inspection office will go. [passage omitted]

MJL Denounces Armed Forces Acts in Artibonite

FL2606191989 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Excerpts] During a press conference yesterday morning [21 June] at the headquarters of the Confederation for Democratic Unity, KID, the Labadie Youth Movement, MJL, denounced the improper behavior of certain members of the Armed Forces in Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite, who set up a police outpost in the area last 17 June. They declared that this police outpost was going to be tougher than Fort Dimanche because any prisoner falling into their hands was going to get at least 150 blows in the behind from a billy club. Here is a report from Jacob Virgil on this matter.

[Virgil] [Passage omitted] According to the MJL, Labadie is the third rural section of Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite. It is 12 km from town and has 10,934 inhabitants. The government has built only one rural school in the area. There is no marketplace, no dispensary, and no potable water. There are also no roads. The MJL does not see what these soldiers are going to do in Labadie. [passage omitted]

During the press conference, the MJL recalled all kinds of abusive treatment they have suffered under the civilian and military authorities of Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite. [passage omitted] The MJL says that with this police outpost they have now set up in the area, repression is going to be worse than ever.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] [Passage omitted] Thus, last Friday night, 16 June, at about 0200 [on 17 June], the Haitian Army showed up in Labadie. There were three truckloads of soldiers, some 60 soldiers in all. Among them was the commanding officer of Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite (Maxi Maxim). They immediately began beating on the peasants' doors, waking them up to ask them who were members of the MJL. This operation went on for the rest of the night, until 0600. Before they left, we noted that Commandant (Maxi Maxim), who is the commander of the barracks in Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite, went by the house of (Albert Guillaume) and (Damas Guillaume)—two of the murderers who chopped (?the furniture) up with machetes and then set fire to it at the MJL's school.

That same day, at 1500, (Maxim) returned to Labadie accompanied by (Nates Sainfisna) plus the two murderers we just named, to look for a house in Labadie in which to set up a police post.

On Saturday 17 June 1989, (Maxim), section chief (Esperond Charles), and two other soldiers returned to Labadie and installed four soldiers at the outpost. [passage omitted] [end recording]

The MJL set forth its position in view of this fearful situation, and asked all people's organizations and human rights organizations to stand by them in solidarity in order to prevent another massacre in Labadie. They also asked that an investigation into this matter be quickly conducted. [passage omitted]

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] We are shocked to see a government that is always talking about democracy refusing to let people assemble. This proves this government is shifty. Here is our position: We will continue to function, at home, the way we always have, without asking for any authorization, because in all societies, people have a right to assemble. And if the government wants to continue killing unarmed people—just as it did [in Labadie] during the 14 August 1988 massacre, and as it has done in many other places in

Haiti, such as (Jean-Rabel), Milot, (Danty), Desarmes, and Grand Bois—well, mankind will take note. [end recording] [passage omitted]

The MJL continues to ask for the results of the investigation into the 14 August massacre, during which four people were killed during a day of reflection organized by the MJL.

Peasants Committee on Insecurity, Elections

FL2606200089 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Excerpts] The Peasants-Workers Committee [Komite Ouvriye Peyizan] denounces the acts contributing to a climate of insecurity being committed in Port-au-Prince and elsewhere in Haiti. [passage omitted] In its press release, the Haitian Workers Committee [name as heard] says it noticed a wave of insecurity washing over Haiti a long time ago, with section chiefs the only cocks in the barnyard in rural areas.

In the capital, the same Palace Guard that effects coups d'etat and is keeping a worthless government in power, is doing as it pleases.

The members of the Peasants-Workers Committee [name as heard] protest all the criminal acts being committed in Haiti. They also protest all the false democrats who place elections before the nation's problems and who are starting to scramble after the presidential chair, slipping in the bloodshed on 29 November, 11 September, and other dates.

The Workers Committee [name as heard] is calling for change (?as regards) the section chiefs who are sowing terror in the hills. They continue to ask the government if insecurity and the high cost of living is a formula it applies in order to do the Haitian people in once and for all.

The Haitian Workers Committee [name as heard] is calling for unity among the popular organizations in order to counter the death train so that (?the Haitian people) will not continue to be led to the slaughter.

The Haitian Workers and Peasants Committee [name as heard] says it is not in favor of elections being held without the Haitian people's demands being satisfied first.

Group Proposes Limiting Number of Candidates

FL2606193989 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Excerpts] A youth organization in Saint-Marc has asked that there be elections before the end of 1989.

[Correspondent Lionel Exantus, in Creole] In a press release, the secretariat of the BGDP, which stands for Compass for a Democratic and Progressive Government, states its position on holding elections in Haiti.

BGDP, which comprises (?seven) democratic associations and neighborhood committees in Saint-Marc, says they still cannot see clearly what kind of elections are possible in light of a number of problems and the insecurity that is increasing daily throughout Haiti. [passage omitted]

The Saint-Marc democratic associations say that a mess during the 29 November elections was inevitable because there were too many presidential candidates. In order to solve this problem, BGDP suggests that the electoral law recognize four political systems: democratic, nationalist, socialist, and communist. Then each of these political systems could present a single candidate, which they could choose after assemblies and the reaching of a consensus (?among their parties). Thus, there would be only four presidential candidates. These four different systems could hold primaries and take polls to determine who their most (?popular candidate) is. [passage omitted]

New Central Bank Board of Directors Appointed

FL2606195489 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Text] A new board of directors for the central bank has been appointed. Mr Jacques Vilgrain is the new governor of the BRH [Banque de la Republique d'Haiti, the central bank]. Felix Gaston is the vice governor. Charles Beaulieu has been appointed director general. Fritz Viala and Fritz Laurenceau are the members of this new administrative council. The new council will be installed today, Friday [23 June], at 1300.

Meanwhile, the U.S. dollar is becoming increasingly expensive on the parallel market. It is going for as much as 32 percent. With the approaching summer vacation, the fact that an increasing number of Haitians are planning to travel abroad may serve to explain, in a way, why there is also an increase in demand for U.S. dollars.

Jamaica

Government To Restructure Development Agency

FL2606133089 Bridgetown CANA in English 2214 GMT 25 Jun 89

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, June 25, CANA—The Jamaica Promotions LTD [Jampro], the island's main economic development agency, is closing its Washington and Taiwan overseas offices as part of a restructuring exercise.

The government announced here that two other overseas offices in London and Miami will be re-located at the Jamaican High Commission premises in both cities as soon as possible. Four others will have their staff reduced "significantly", the government said.

The office of vice-president for overseas operations held by Peter King is being repatriated to Jamaica so that it can be nearer to policymaking.

Minister of development, production and planning, P.J. Patterson, said the re-organisation of Jampro was necessary because of a cut in its budget. Jampro's budget was slashed from 73 million Jamaican dollars (one JCA dollar ; about 18 cents U.S.) last year to 53 million Jamaican dollars this year.

The new structure will see a move away from one based mainly on group functions to one organised to reflect sectoral product priorities such as agro-industry, apparel and footwear, furniture and other wood products and minerals. The new look, Patterson said, will enable Jampro to respond in a more coordinated manner to the needs of business in the designated priority sectors.

Jampro was formed in 1988 when Jamaica National Investment Promotions LTD, Jamaica National Export Corporation and Jamaica Industrial Development Corporation were amalgamated by former Prime Minister Edward Seaga.

Trinidad and Tobago

Opposition Cites Human Rights Violations

FL2606151589 Bridgetown CANA in English 2026 GMT 24 Jun 89

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, June 24, CANA—Trinidad and Tobago's opposition People's National Movement [PNM] announced Saturday that it had written to Amnesty International, the United Nations Bureau on Human Rights, and the International Court of Justice, complaining of Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson's "blatant abuse" of the human rights of five former ministers. Last week, Robinson told Parliament of a letter he received linking five former PNM ministers to the drug business.

The party had previously written to Commonwealth Secretary General Shridath Ramphal asking him to include a discussion of paliamentary privilige at a meeting of Commonwealth Attorneys General now taking place.

"For some time now, the officers and members of the People's National Movement had been articulating their concerns over the unsubstantiated allegations made by the prime minister both at home and abroad which were designed to tarnish the party's good name by suggesting linkages between some of its members and the illegal drug trade," the PNM said in a statement Saturday. It said it was for this reason that the party had written to Ramphal. "For similar reasons and to ensure that attention is paid to Mr Robinson's negative behavior on the guarantees of human rights enshrined in the Constitution, and to preserve the party's good name abroad, the party has also communicated with the best known rights organisations," the party said.

House Speaker Reserves Ruling on Prime Minister

FL2606155089 Bridgetown CANA in English 2043 GMT 24 Jun 89

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, June 24, CANA—Speaker of the Trinidad and Tobago House of Representatives, Nizan Mohammed, on Friday reserved his decision on a motion—from opposition leader Patrick Manning—calling for Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson to be brought before the priviliges committee for a breach of parliamentary privilige.

Manning presented his case to Parliament Friday following Robinson's reading of a private letter in the House last Friday which called the names of five former People's Nationa Movement (PNM) ministers said by witnesses before a drug commission of inquiry to be involved in drug use and dealing. The reading which Robinson said was forced from him by the continuous appeals from the PNM opposition for him to name former ministers called in connection with the controversial Scott Drug Report, brought forth a tide of criticisms from the local media and the public.

In Parliament Friday newspaper reports quoted Manning as saying that a prime minister was supposed to be "an exemplar to the nation" and that Parliament was not only supreme in law making but "it must also be supreme in terms of setting the highest standard of ethical conduct for its members and for the nation." In his case Manning contended that "it was a breach of parliamentary privilige to use evidence of the worst kind to malign, to defame persons who are not members of this House and who have neither the right of reply in Parliament nor redress in the law." "...Parliamentary privilige should not be used to make accusations in this House against individuals on the basis of spurious evidence...(or) to make statements for which members would be sued if they made the same statements outside the House," Manning was quoted by the EXPRESS as saying.

Mohammed indicated to Manning after his presentation that he would make his ruling at the next sitting of the House which will be Friday.

Meanwhile, Desmond Cartey, one of the former ministers called in the letter, said in a statement that he was "amazed and saddened" by the reading of the letter and said he "categorically and unequivocally" denied the allegations. He added that he would explore every avenue to clear his name.

Baja California Elections 'Test' to Salinas

PA2606191589 Mexico City THE NEWS in English 21 Jun 89 p 5

[Commentary by Ricardo Castillo: "Will Salinas Give Up Baja California Governorship? Impossible"]

[Text] Among the five states that will hold elections on July 2, Baja California is no doubt where the hottest contest is taking place. Not only that, but political commentators in Mexico and the United States are advising President Carlos Salinas de Gortari "to lose" the Baja elections to the National Action Party (PAN) candidate Ernesto Ruffo Appel.

The very mention, however, of having the government-sponsored Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) lose a governorship sounds unthinkable. What's more, impossible.

About the only time the PRI genuinely lost a gubernatorial election was back in 1976 in the Nayarit state elections. Rodolfo Gascon Mercado of the Popular Socialist Party (PPS) won the election, but the national party leader, Jorge Cruickshank, traded Gascon's governorship for a seat for himself in the Mexican Senate. Gascon wound up as Cruickshank's enemy, and Cruickshank served the regular six-year senatorial term. It was the first time the government yielded, mind you, a Senate seat, but not a governorship though the PPS genuinely won.

Commentators contend that because President Carlos Salinas de Gortari has proved in six months to be a powerful president, he will be yielding for further changes including letting go of at least one governorship, that of Baja California where Ruffo Appel and Margarita Ortega of the PRI are running a race that's too close to call.

Professor Wayne Cornelius, a San Diego based specialist in Mexican politics, recently published an article in the L.A. Times in which he claims that because President Salinas already cleaned house with drug traffickers and union bosses, the next step is to create further democratic opportunities for opposition parties, particularly the PAN.

But other democratic experiments in Mexico have failed before. The freshest in mind takes us back to Chihuahua in 1983 when the PAN was in control of nine of the state's municipalities. President Miguel de la Madrid had just taken office and under his mandate the PAN won, not only in Chihuahua, but by 1984 it had control of the mayor's office in six state capitals. De la Madrid then closed ranks and his men, under the direction of former Interior Secretary Manuel Bartlett Diaz, allegedly used every trick in the book to regain the lost municipalities, which they now hold.

Now Cornelius and various Mexico City columnists contend that President Salinas would do well to not try to hold on to Baja California should the PRI lose. "That way the PRI would win by losing", says Francisco Jose Paoli in La Jornada. Cornelious thinks an acknowledged PAN victory in Baja would make the skeptics believe in the system.

The real test to President Salinas' democratic spirit will be if the PAN candidate Ernesto Ruffo wins. Will he use, as others have done before him, every trick in the book to preserve the status quo?

That we will find out very soon.

'Substantial' Progress Made in Debt Negotiations

PA2606174589 Mexico City THE NEWS in English 21 Jun 89 pp 1, 6

[Text] Caracas—Mexico revealed it has achieved "substantial" progress in its own debt negotiations, as mixed signals were aired Tuesday in the framework of comprehensive financial talks among the heavily indebted nations of the developing world.

Mexican Foreign Relations Secretary Fernando Solana said the nation's own debt talks are being carried out "within the framework" of Latin America's Group of 8 countries including Mexico and Brazil, the developiong world's two heaviest borrowers. "As such, they are being geared toward a substantial reduction of the net transfer of resources abroad."

In one of the day's sessions of the Latin American Economic System (SELA, its Spanish acronym) and the Group of 77 developing nations, delegates said the G-77 appeared to have reached a consensus on a stand to demand a substantial reduction in both capital and interests of the Third World's "unmanageable" debt.

Solana, meanwhile, declined to specify the percentage of debt reduction being sought by Mexico, but did not exclude the possibiility that it would be along the lines of the SELA proposal of 50 percent.

In an apparently contradictory report, delegates at another work session said talks aimed at cutting the region's 401-billion-dollar debt by half had reportedly failed.

"We have to give it more time," Carlos Perez del Castillo, Permanent Secretary of the 26-nation SELA told reporters.

During his visit as head of the Mexican delegation, Solana met Tuesday with Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, to fine-tune details for the visit in early July by President Carlos Salinas de Gortari.

Silvia Charpentier, Costa Rica's debt negotiator, said the delegates expected to agree on general points to cut the debt, but would not produce a document backing a SELA plan.

Under the plan, announced in May, the region's foreign debt would be cut by 50 percent and payments by 75 percent with the conversion of half the debt into long-term bonds guaranteed by creditors.

SELA has not said how it intended to implement the plan or present it to creditors, who have not responded.

Imelda Cisneros, Venezuela's deputy finance minister, said Tuesday SELA planned to hold a new meeting to develop efforts towards a regional platform on the foreign debt. No date or venue has been set.

The larger Latin American debtors owe most to commercial banks and the smaller ones to multilateral lending agencies and governments. Most of the region's overall debt is owed to commercial banks.

Critics call the plan too ambitious and say it competes with a proposal by U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady which involves cutting the debt to commercial banks and which is being taken seriously by the larger debtors.

Creditor Banks Hold Debt Discount at 22 Percent

PA2606183989 Mexico City THE NEWS in English 23 Jun 89 p 1

[Text] New York—The committee representing Mexico's creditor banks has not been able to convince representatives of European and Japanese banks to accept a greater discount than 22 percent on Mexico's foreign debt, according to wire service reports.

The U.S. bankers, among whom is William Rhodes, the president of the committee, agreed to grant a discount of 30 percent.

The difference between the discount proposals may be the cause of a delay in the talks between Mexico and the creditor bank committee, according to the reports.

It had been hoped that a proposal could be presented to Mexico's negotiators on Wednesday.

But, representatives of Japanese and European banks returned and Thursday met with the committee after consulting with their banks.

Rhodes, president of CitiBank, hopes to deliver details of a banking committee agreement to Secretary of Finance Pedro Aspe this weekend.

The idea was to complete a financial packet by the end of June, allowing the Bush administration to showcase Mexico's renegotiation as the first application of the Brady plan at the Group of 7 (G-7) meeting July 13 in Paris. The United States, Japan, West Germany, Great Britain, Canada, Italy and France make up the G-7.

Minimum Wage To Increase by 6 Percent 1 July

PA2606181489 Mexico City THE NEWS in English 24 Jun 89 pp 1, 28

[Article by Irma Fuentes]

[Text] A 6-percent increase in the minimum wage nationwide, effective July 1, was approved late Friday by the Minimum Wage Commission. The "non-inflationary hike, which is not to affect consumer prices, will be absorbed by the employers," the Commission announced.

The powerful Mexican Workers Federation (CTM) declined to sign the accord, which will go into effect as stipulated regardless, because a majority of the other labor unions represented at the talks agreed to its terms. The other two sectorial representatives, Labor Secretary Arsenio Farrell Cubillas and Rolando Vega, interim chief of the Business Coordinating Committee (CCE), approved the terms.

The announcement by the Commission came after several hours of uninterrupted negotiations at Commission headquarters. Commission President Norma Samaniego de Villarreal said the increase will not be applicable to contractual hikes. Under terms of the ongoing economic controls known as the Economic Pact for Stability and Growth (PECE), contractual wage increases may be negotiated individually.

In formally announcing the wage adjustment, Villarreal emphasized that the agreement "does not violate the terms or the objective of the (PECE), which are geared towards bringing inflation fully under control."

She also stressed that the hike is "a transitional increase, aimed at consolidating the nation's economic recovery, restoring at least partially the purchasing power of workers, avoiding the rekindling of inflationary pressures, and favoring a climate of unity that we so need at this time."

The increase represents additional monthly incomes of between 13,050 and 15,600 pesos, ranging from the low-income regions to the Mexico City metropolitan area.

The Commission meeting was summoned by Farell, who said afterward that it had become "imperative to undertake an effort to restore the purchasing power of the workers making the minimum wage." Farell explained that the minimum wage for technical jobs is to go up in the same proportion.

While the CTM abstained from casting a vote, representatives of five other labor unions voted in favor of the deal. CTM spokesman Benito Farfan said his union abstained because it was seeking a 10-percent hike and it was voted down.

Vega, meanwhile, affirmed that the business sector "will observe strictly the terms of the PECE, and will not implement any retail price increases."

Another business leader, Jorge Ocejo Moreno, said it should be made perfectly clear that the increase to the minimum wage "must not be made extensive to contractual wages. The latter have been periodically adjusted, and should continue to be adjusted in accordance with each company's possibilities."

El Salvador

Colonel Dies Following 26 Jun Machinegun Attack

PA2606210089 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1555 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Text] Colonel Roberto Armando Rivera Escobar, director of the National Fire Department, died at the Military Hospital a few minutes ago. He was machinegunned while in his vehicle near Venezuela Boulevard in San Salvador. We repeat that it has been confirmed that Col Rivera Escobar, who took office as director of the National Fire Department on 1 June, died this morning at San Salvador's Military Hospital. He was machinegunned by unidentified assailants.

Cristiani Blames FMLN

PA2606231689 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Report on interview with President Alfredo Cristiani by Milton Grimaldi on 26 June—place not given]

[Text] President Alfredo Cristiani said today that despite the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front's [FMLN] terrorist attacks against Salvadorans, his government is willing to hold talks with the rebels. He said that his administration is continuing its efforts to form a commission to hold a dialogue with the rebels and that he is now awaiting word from two people whom he has chosen to serve on the commission. The Catholic Church will not be represented on the commission because the commission is completely political in nature. President Cristiani condemned the murder of National Fire Department Director Colonel Roberto Armando Rivera Escobar, who was killed in a machinegun attack this morning. President Cristiani attributed Rivera's murder to the FMLN:

[Begin recording] [Cristiani] It is clear that the FMLN does not want peace but instead wants to continue the violence. The FMLN committed this crime. I believe that a treacherous crime such as this one cannot be called anything but a cowardly act. We will, of course, investigate the crime. However, I repeat that all the evidence we have gathered on the FMLN's plans indicate that it was responsible for this action.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] What are you doing to prepare the commission that is to hold talks [words indistinct]?

[Cristiani] Of course, the terrorists will not be successful with actions of this kind and will not provoke us to take violent action. They should understand by now that the government is searching for peace and wants to achieve peace within El Salvador's legal framework and by applying the law. The FMLN rebels should understand that their terrorist actions will not lead us to take rash actions; it is useless for them to continue to act in this way.

We are continuing our work on setting up the commission. Today we will speak with two people who have still not told us if they will accept my invitation to be commission members. The names of the commission members will be released to the public once the commission is fully formed.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] The Catholic Church's role in this commission?

[Cristiani] [Words indistinct] The Catholic Church will not be represented in this commission because it is a political commission and not one in which the church can effectively participate. The church has always worked for peace and has made all possible efforts to find peace for the country. The church will continue to work for this goal. However, I believe that the church has a different role to play in the search for peace, and that role is not serving on the political commission.

[Reporter] What would you say is the biggest obstacle you have encountered in the month that you have served as president?

[Cristiani] I believe that the biggest obstacle has been our inability to launch our government program. This is due to the state of affairs that existed in the former administration when we took over. We have repeatedly observed this state of affairs in the majority of government [word indistinct]. Throughout government offices, disorder was rampant, and, in many cases, we have observed that government offices were managed irresponsibly. Moreover, the nation's public finances have greatly deteriorated. We have inherited a country in very bad financial shape, and, I believe, this has delayed the launching of our government program. [end recording]

Cristiani, referring to Costa Rican President Oscar Arias' offer to hold a dialogue with the rebels on Costa Rican territory, said that the offer was a great contribution toward convincing the FMLN to stop murdering defenseless citizens.

FMLN Radio Admits Responsibility

PA2606235189 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 2315 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Text] Your close attention, FMLN combatants and the Salvadoran people in general: The media has reported the murder of Roberto Armando Rivera, director [word indistinct] of the National Fire Department, by the FMLN's Modesto Ramirez urban commandos [words indistinct].

Before the arrival of the murderer Cristiani to power, Col Rivera was the director of the Public Security Academy. In other words, Col Rivera was a death squad member who taught torture techniques to be used against the peoples movement.

FMLN Issues Communique

PA2706003289 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0008 GMT 27 Jun 89

[Communique issued by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front in El Salvador on 26 June]

[Text] The FMLN informs all the Salvadoran people that today, 26 June 1989, an FMLN urban commando unit executed Colonel Roberto Armando Rivera, a military officer with a well-known criminal and repressive background. He served as director of the Public Security School, where, along with a team of Chilean advisers, he specialized in the planning and implementation of dirty war operations in the style of the criminal attack staged by the Armed Forces in the Central Market and the attack on the U.S. nuns.

Col Rivera also taught psychological warfare and techniques of interrogation and torture and was clearly linked to the death squads' activities.

The FMLN reiterates to all the Salvadoran people that the dirty war actions carried out by the Nationalist Republican Alliance, such as the one carried out at the Central Market, will receive a firm and resolute response from the armed people.

[Signed] FMLN, El Salvador, 26 June 1989

Radio Reports 18-24 Jun Casualties, Actions

PA2606165489

[Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 26 June carries a 30-minute summary of military actions from 18 to 24 June. The announcer begins the report by sending "revolutionary greetings to all units throughout the country who kept up a strong offensive against the pro-ARENA (Nationalist Republican Alliance) Armed Forces." The report adds that the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) "carried out regional maneuvers, attacks on enemy positions, harassments, and other offensive actions that inflicted 184 casualties on the pro-ARENA Armed Forces." During the same week, the FMLN captured a soldier of the 4th Infantry Brigade during an attack on the communications base in La Palma, the radio reports, adding that two helicopters and an armed personnel carrier were damaged, while a truck was destroyed. The station then lists the military equipment seized during the week: 11 rifles, 1 M-79 rocket launcher, 5,914 rounds of ammunition, and 25 knapsacks. The radio also reports the FMLN staged "four successful ambushes" and "sabotaged a microwave station, a gasoline station, five telephone junction boxes, and a bank."

Referring to "activities by urban guerrillas in the capital city" over the past week, the radio cites "attacks on a bank, power lines, and telephone junction boxes," in addition to an ambush on the "criminal National Police" in the Mejicanos area.

Bishop Questions Government's Version of Attacks

PA2606163289 Paris AFP in Spanish 2005 GMT 25 Jun 89

[Text] San Salvador, 25 Jun (AFP)—El Salvador's Catholic Church has questioned the "swiftness" with which the government blamed the guerrillas this week for the wounding of an Irish nun and the grenade attack on a San Salvador marketplace that killed 3 and wounded 40. "I am surprised to see how quickly those two actions were blamed on the guerrillas," San Salvador Auxiliary Bishop Gregorio Rosa Chavez said during the traditional Sunday homily at the capital's cathedral.

"These actions are far too serious to reach such an easy conclusion," he said, recalling "that military weapons, such as those used in that tragic attack on the marketplace, have been used in some cases by drunken soldiers or by private citizens who obtained weapons for their own use." He said one cannot rule out the possibility that these attacks "may have been the work of persons who do not belong to either the rebels or the government."

Rosa Chavez criticized a bill to amend the penal code submitted by President Alfredo Cristiani which, in the bishop's opinion, "does not respect the Salvadorans' individual rights."

In the same context, he referred to the president's decision to no longer use the church as a mediator between the guerrillas and the government. "We will soon know if this is a new way of seeing things," the bishop said, warning that the church will continue to play "an active role in matters related to the country's peace and human rights." He added that very soon "we will know if the laws will further complicate things rather than resolve them, if the laws will help democracy or weaken it, and if individual rights will be respected."

Rosa Chavez also asked the immigration authorities to explain the detention "for many hours" of a U.S. priest, who resides in El Salvador, upon his return through Comalapa International Airport on 22 June.

Guatemala

National Revolutionary Unity Attacks Garrisons

PA2706035789 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 24 Jun 89 p 3

[Text] The Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, URNG, has reported that it attacked and damaged a U.S. helicopter, according to a CERIGUA news dispatch.

The report indicates that the guerrilla forces opened fire on the aircraft as it was participating in a supply operation at the military garrison in Amacchel, Chajul, in northern Quiche Department.

The guerrillas reportedly also attacked the garrisons in the towns of Caba, Cotzol, and Juil, at the San Francisco estate, and in the municipal capital of Uspantan.

Concluding, CERIGUA reported the occupation of the town of El Naranjal, in San Luis, Peten, and an attack on San Juan Alotenango, Sacatepequez.

Attacks U.S. Fuel Tank Truck

PA2706035089 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 26 Jun 89 p 16

[Text] In military actions that took place between 20 and 22 June, guerrillas of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) attacked a truck carrying petroleum in Peten and damaged a helicopter in Quiche.

The information was provided by the CERIGUA news agency, which reported the URNG guerrillas attacked and damaged a petroleum tank truck of the U.S.-owned Texaco on the main highway in Peten.

On 21 June, the rebels attacked an Army column in Pueblo Nuevo, Ixcan, Quiche, while antiaircraft units fired several shots at a Guatemalan Air Force helicopter.

The URNG warned that all tank trucks carrying fuel for the Army will be destroyed, regardless of whether they are privately owned or government-owned vehicles.

Army To Give 'Harassed' Civilians Weapons

PA2606234389 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1904 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Text] Guatemala City, 26 Jun (ACAN - EFE)—For the first time in history, the Guatemalan Army will provide weapons to the residents of towns that have been harassed or continue to be harassed by guerrillas, a military chief from Chimaltenango, a department in central Guatemala, reported today.

The source, who requested anonymity, told a group of reporters that in a few weeks, the Armed Forces will distribute weapons to the people of Chimaltenango and other areas affected by violence.

He added that the peasants will be given M-1 carbines, 12-gauge shotguns, and 22-mm rifles so they can defend themselves from the subversive elements, but the Army will supervise their actions.

The officer said the people's participation in the so-called Civil Defense Patrols (PAC) is voluntary, but because of the latest harassments by rebels, it is "necessary" for the Army to provide weapons, he explained.

The source added that in recent days, the Chimaltenango area has been harassed by members of the Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms (ORPA), one of the three rebel groups composing part of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG).

In November 1988, the Armed Forces and the government accused ORPA of kidnapping and killing 22 peasants in the town of El Aguacate (Chimaltenango), but the guerrillas denied the charges.

The URNG leadership claimed the Guatemalan Army "is responsible for the slaughter" of the farmers.

Meanwhile, Army troops supported by the Guatemalan Air Force (FAG) carried out heavy operations in Sacatepequez, a department in central Guatemala, searching for a guerrilla column that murdered a child and wounded five other people last week.

Military sources said today that a FAG helicopter flew over the mountainous area of Sacatepequez yesterday while land units conducted heavy operations in the area, trying to destroy the rebel column.

Defense Minister General Hector Alejandro Gramajo voiced concern over the increase in guerrilla activities. He showed reporters several pamphlets in which the guerrillas warn that there will be new slaughters of peasants.

Honduras

Deadline Set for Panama To Pay Electricity Debt

PA2606221589 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 26 Jun 89 p 5

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa—It has been officially announced that Economy Ministry authorities have set the month of July as the deadline for Panama to pay its $4-million debt for the provision of electricity.

Panama has offered to pay the debt in sugar and molasses, but the authorities of both countries have not yet agreed to this.

Economy Minister Reginaldo Panting sent a meesage on 23 June to the Panamanian planning minister urging him to initiate payment negotiations.

According to local authorities, if Panama fails to pay the debt by the end of July, the sale of electricity to that country will be suspended. Honduras supplies 4 percent of Panama's electricity. [passage omitted]

Panama

Solis Palma Vows Not To Surrender Noriega, Power

PA2606142889 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2104 GMT 25 Jun 89

[Text] Panama City, 25 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Manuel Solis Palma, minister in charge of the Presidency, reiterated today that neither General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces, nor power "will be surrendered."

Solis Palma said that "no matter" who heads or comprises the government, what is important, according to him, is that "the person of Gen Noriega will not be handed over [to the United States], and that the process (referring to the regime) will not be relinquished; that would be surrendering the liberation process to another nation, an unforgivable mistake."

Solis Palma made that statement at a meeting over the past weekend of about 500 grass roots leaders from the country's central provinces. The meeting was called by Solis Palma to hear the leaders' opinions on the "power vacuum" that will result on 1 September.

On 1 September, a new president and the parliamentarians elected in the 7 May elections should assume power. The opposition claims it won those elections, which were annulled by the Electoral Tribunal.

"A moment of irresolution and weakness in 20 years of progress would be unforgivable, and future generations, for which we have made this great effort, would not forgive us either," Solis Palma stressed.

During the meeting with Solis Palma, the grass roots leaders proposed various alternatives to handle the "power vacuum" that, according to observers, will take place on 1 September.

A Presidency bulletin published today states that the community leaders proposed to Solis a return to the so-called "people's power" of the 1970's, which would entail the existence of another chamber made up of representatives from 500 "corregimientos," the smallest administrative division in Panama.

In addition, they requested unspecified constitutional amendments and a purge of the public administration to "get rid of those who are harming and hurting the homeland's interests."

It was also said that the government "should act with more energy against internal enemies" and that it "should revamp the diplomatic corps to put real defenders of our cause abroad."

Solis Palma replied to the leaders stating that "there is no possibility of holding new elections soon, as circumstances do not permit it."

According to the presidential bulletin, Solis Palma said that he agreed with "the need to clean house, get rid of the turncoats and eliminate from the payroll those who do not work." He announced that effective tomorrow, 26 June, he will order an audit of the administration in order to fight corruption.

"We cannot and should not continue to give the country the impression of inefficiency and corruption," he warned.

Over the past few days, Solis Palma appointed two new ministers, of health and education, and announced that changes "will continue, although my government tenure will end in a little more than 2 months."

Endara on Solis Palma's Statement

PA2606182589 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1659 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Text] Panama City, 26 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Today, Panamanian opposition leader Guillermo Endara minimized the statement issued by President Manuel Solis Palma in the sense that neither General Manuel Antonio Noriega, chief of the Panama Defense Forces [FDP], nor power "will be surrendered (entregado)."

"I learned a long time ago not to heed Mr Solis Palma. He issues statements that the next day are denied by people who represent the FDP, those who really rule Panama," Endara said to ACAN-EFE.

"I will not assign importance to (Solis Palma's) statements because the FDP recently implied that they want to negotiate, and we base ourselves on that assumption," added the opposition's presidential candidate in the 7 May elections.

During a political meeting in the interior this past weekend, Solis Palma said that the "person of Gen Noriega" and "the process" (the regime installed after the 1968 coup) "will not be relinquished; that would be surrendering the liberation process to another nation, an unforgivable mistake."

Endara reasserted today that Noriega must leave the FDP command and, instead of heeding Solis Palma, the opposition prefers to think there is a possibility that the FDP will participate in a dialogue and seek a solution to the crisis that resulted when the 7 May elections were annulled.

Last Wednesday [21 June] the Panamanian Foreign Ministry announced that the government is willing to discuss the dialogue agenda through the Executive Branch, "which includes the FDP."

"We believe the FDP's position is quite positive and we believe that conditions exist for a dialogue," Endara said today to ACAN-EFE.

The opposition leader, who claims he was elected president, yesterday asked the OAS to send the foreign ministers' mission—which has visited the country on two occasions—back to Panama "as soon as possible," to seek "a formula of agreement" for "the transfer of power."

The mission's members, led by Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez, stated earlier this month that they would return to Panama only if the necessary steps were taken to begin a "tripartite dialogue" among the opposition parties, the government parties, and the FDP.

Endara, who accepted the formula almost immediately, considers the Foreign Ministry's announcement on Wednesday "to mean that the military is making its own preparations for dialogue" and, therefore, the OAS mission should return.

Referring to the points of the agenda proposed by the opposition for the dialogue, Endara said to ACAN-EFE that they are "very well known"—Gen Noriega's withdrawal from the military command; respect for the people's will, as stated in the 7 May elections; and reform of the law that regulates FDP activities.

Endara: Country Could Suffer 'Social Explosion'
PA2706011489 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 0009 GMT 27 Jun 89

[Text] Lima, 26 June—Guillermo Endara, former Panamanian presidential candidate, yesterday stated to the Ricardo Sanchez Serra, director of the Peruvian newspaper EL CALLAO, that a social explosion could take place in Panama very soon because of its serious economic situation.

Endara stated, "We can expect a social explosion at any time. Panama is clearly heading toward its economic ruin, which is a pity, because it has a strong economic movement."

The Panamanian opposition politician said, however, that a civil war is not probable, at least at the present time.

"I do not see a civil war in the traditional sense taking place at the present time, because Panamanians are unarmed," stated Endara during the interview. He added that a civil war could ensue "in the next generation; however, there will be conflicts similar to a civil war, because the people completely oppose the military government and totally support open and firm opposition against that military government."

Endara was the opposition's presidential candidate who, according to the United States, won the 7 May elections that were anulled by Ge Manuel Antonio Noriega, the Panamanian military strongman.

Sanchez asked Endara if the OAS mediating commission to search for a solution to the Panamanian crisis was merely a diplomatic gesture; Endara responded:

"I would say it is the trial of fire for the OAS. The OAS is dead if it turns in a report that is merely rhetorical, silences the self-determination of the Panamanians, and thus becomes an accomplice of the Panamanian military dictatorship. If this happens, the OAS should die, and its death would be merited. However, I do hope such a fate will not befall the OAS."

Duque Says Agreements Must Be FDP Backed
PA2606223389 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 26 Jun 89 p 3

[Report by Mariela Munoz Aragon]

[Text] "Political agreements must be backed by the Panama Defense Forces [FDP], which are the guarantors of social peace in Panama. Therefore, the FDP—as components of the Executive Branch—will guarantee strict compliance with the agreements reached through the dialogue."

This statement was made by Carlos Duque Jaen, a businessman and president of the Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD), who commented on the importance and urgency of a great national agreement for the people. Duque added: "All the people, a politically-minded people, are awaiting political answers and solutions; that is why, on numerous occasions, we have called for a national dialogue."

Duque said that he hopes that the Executive Branch's proposal, calling for the participation of all national political forces and tendencies in the effort to reach an agreement, will become a reality as soon as possible." [quotation marks as published] Speaking on behalf of all PRD leaders and members, Duque said that he is always open to dialogue.

"The PRD is committed to holding a dialogue, and, above all, it is willing to sit down at the negotiating table to discuss various problems," Duque said.

Business Leader on FDP Participation in Dialogue
PA2706041289 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Statement by Jose Raul Mulino, acting president of the Panamanian Association of Business Executives (APEDE); date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] The ADOC's [Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance] position on the tripartite dialogue—which the OAS mission proposed at the end of its second visit as a way to solve the Panamanian conflict—demonstrates common sense. ADOC does not have any problems with talking with the Panama Defense Forces [FDP], even if the FDP believes that the COLINA [National Liberation

Coalition] must be included in the dialogue. I believe that holding a dialogue is a way to prove to the entire world that common sense prevails here. It is a way of showing that the Panamanian people strongly desire a solution to the enormous problem hounding Panama.

Today we read the Foreign Ministry's communique on the dialogue published by the local press. The communique states that the Executive Branch agrees to participate in the dialogue; the document adds that the FDP is part of the Executive Branch. In my opinion, and because of the way in which the Foreign Ministry communique is written, it seems that the Executive Branch is the one which will hold the talks. It is fine to say that the FDP is part of the Executive Branch, but the communique does not explictly state that the FDP will [word indistinct] be present in that dialogue or political negotiation. It would be a good idea if the Foreign Ministry clarified the text of its communique, because, in my opinion, it is somewhat ambiguous.

Editorial Views Dialogue, Possible Solutions
PA2606192889 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 26 Jun 89 p 4

[Editorial: "The Three Sides to a Dialogue"]

[Text] It seems at least likely that the Panamanian people will come to the point where an exchange of views on a national agreement to resolve the complex current situation can be reached and decisions on our future can be made.

Judging from what we have learned, the initial step in this process toward agreement should be to draft an agenda, that is, a list of topics to be discussed during the talks. Such an agenda would narrow the definitive points of the discussion to be held by the sides participating in the dialogue.

To prepare this agenda, however, it is first necessary to identify the sides involved in the disagreement. These sides cannot be other than the two major groups that participated in the 7 May elections, the National Liberation Coalition [COLINA] and the opposition group formed by the Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance [ADOC] and the Authentic Panamenist Party.

A third party in the discussions will have to be the Executive Branch, because it will have to wrap up and implement any decisions resulting from a dialogue between the government and opposition sectors. This is sufficient reason for the Executive Branch to participate in the dialogue.

In addition, it must be understood that the participation of the executive Branch involves, by fact and right, the FDP contribution toward the success of this initial dialogue and any subsequent dialogues. After all, the FDP did not and does not share in the political interests at stake in the electoral process. However, it must guarantee fulfillment of the commitments agreed to in this dialogue.

Once the identity of the sides has been established, a working agenda can be drafted and a dialogue initiated. The government's role would be to implement any agreements reached. It would be up to the PDF to enforce such agreements.

This is how we understand the structure of the forces and the climate in which we can resolve the crisis lashing at us. Any decisions made during this dialogue will have the excellent moral credit of having been made without the direct or indirect participation of any element foreign to Panama or the Panamanians.

Any other solution, proposed by foreigners, imposed by force or by millions of dollars, or achieved by submission and by kneeling down, would be denigrating, would act against Panama, and would, therefore, be unacceptable.

University Students Stage Protest on Campus
PA2706001289 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2312 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Text] The apparent normalcy at the University of Panama was disrupted today when student groups staged protests at the central university campus. Eyewitnesses said that university students erected barricades with garbage cans, pieces of wood, stones, and garbage to partially block car traffic along the Manuel Espinosa Batista Avenue.

No specific student group has claimed credit for the protest against the current situation in the country. The students demanded that political and civil rights be restored and that the people's will expressed at the polls during the elections, which were later annulled, be respected. Action Movement members from the university's School of Business joined the student protest. The student leaders reported that one student was arrested by armed civilians. This led the demonstrators to withdraw almost immediately. After 1 hour, the Doberman riot police arrived and traffic returned to normal. There were no confrontations between the demonstrators and the authorities, although there was a great deal of expectation among the university community in this regard.

Opposition Praises SI, Group of 8 Decisions
PA2606230689 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1815 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Text] Panama City, 25 Jun (ACAN - EFE)—The Panamanian opposition today praised recent actions adopted by Socialist International [SI] and the Group of Eight against the Panamanian regime.

According to the opposition, "the international situation of General Manuel Antonio Noriega's regime is gradually worsening," which makes the formulas of agreement the OAS is seeking in Panama "more feasible."

A communique signed by opposition leader Ricardo Arias Calderon, who proclaimed himself as the first vice president elect in the 7 May elections, praises the Socialist International's decision to expel the Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD), Panama's largest pro-government party, from that forum.

The communique adds that "Colombia's suggestion to replace Panama with Ecuador in the Group of Eight—the most influential association of Latin American countries—also reveals the international community's repudiation of the Panamanian regime."

The communique states that the "dismissal and arrest in Cuba of high-ranking government officials who were charged with involvement in drug-trafficking activities" could lead the Havana government—"which has thus far supported Noriega's regime"—to be willing "to dissociate from it."

As for the decision to replace Panama with Ecuador in the Group of Eight, Arias states that "it would be more fair, however, to leave the opportunity open for Panama to rejoin the Group of Eight as soon as the democratic transfer of power called for by the OAS in its 17 May resolution takes place."

Arias added: "Meanwhile, the Group of Eight governments should conduct vigorous and joint actions to help the OAS achieve its goal in Panama as soon as possible, thus respecting the sovereign will of the Panamanian people."

Panama is one of the founding countries of the Group of Eight, along with Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay, but it has not been invited to that group's meetings since February 1988, when former Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle was dismissed a few hours after his failed attempt to separate Gen Noriega from his military post.

As for the Socialist International decision, Arias asserts that "for many years, the PRD served as an instrument of the military dictatorship," and that "it was incomprehensible that a democratic, international organization had allowed such a party to continue as an observer member while it was violating the basic postulates of democracy."

Regarding a possible separation between the Panamanian and the Cuban Governments, Arias indicates that "some of the Cuban officials accused by the Cuban Government would have established their links with (drug-trafficking activities) in Panama."

"It was also reported that over 15 Cuban officials assigned to Panama have been asked to return to Cuba for investigation." Arias adds: "In light of that situation, the Cuban regime—which has thus far supported Noriega's regime—could be willing to dissociate from it."

Papers on New Southern Command General Cisneros

CRITICA on General's Remarks

PA2606205289 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 26 Jun 89 pp 2, 14

[Commentary of the day]

[Text] International news agencies covered the change of command at the Southern Command headquarters in the Panama Canal area, during which a general named Woerner turned the Yankee occupation Army's command over to another general named Cisneros.

There is nothing of particular importance or spectacular about a military ceremony of this nature, because holding this type of protocol ceremony when one military commander is relieved and another designated is part of the military routine.

Nevertheless, the two American generals took advantage of the presence of the international press to turn the ceremony into a political event which, in addition to meddling in Panama's internal affairs, constitutes an open and shameless demonstration of the well known support the Army offers to the opposition sectors included in the ADOC [Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance].

One of the news agencies points out that these two American generals (one of whom is a U.S.-born Mexican), referred to General Manuel Antonio Noriega—who was in no way involved in the ceremony—using terms such as "dictator and supporter of an illegitimate government," "tin horn dictator," "an armed man lacking a head or intelligence..." and of "unleashing a campaign of lies and misinformation against the United states..." among other things.

The statements prompted laughter and these two generals revealed themselves through their statements. They have used all the technical and financial resources placed within their reach by the "establishment" to achieve their unhealthy goal and fulfill their desire to remain in Panamanian territory beyond the year 2000. For over 2 years, they have not only tried to make Gen Noriega resign from his post as commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces [FDP], but they have also tried to make him leave the country because he has refused to support the authoritative and expansionistic intentions of the northern empire's corrupt administration.

These two Yankee soldiers' have failed in this effort because they do not know what it means to struggle for a nationalist ideal, nor do they understand the position of

a people bravely seeking total independence. Gen Noriega is the type of man who, as General Omar Torrijos' worthy disciple, makes the fatherland an altar and its leading interests a religion.

The clay from which Gen Noriega was molded is not for exportation, which is why is it not commonly used in the United States, nor is it known to the Southern Command's soldiers, even though that organization is entrenched in our territory.

After resorting to all the tricks, even to levelling unfounded accusations of drug dealing against the Panamanian general—which did not yield the expected results—it seems now that the Americans are turning to a new psychological tactic, on which Gen Cisneros (a soldier who is still suffering from the Vietnam syndrome) is an expert. The strategy consists of insulting Noriega and using the international press to slander him and lie about him to see if he will surrender his firm nationalist attitude.

However, they shall not succeed because Gen Noriega is backed by an entire nation that does not want to become a colony, a people who are demanding fulfillment of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties, and armed forces that admire a leader who does not say go, but follow me.

By contrast, Cisneros, Woerner, and others must account to American mothers for the pointless deaths of their children, who were forced to participate in "war games" and cowardly harassment against the people of a nation that is not at war and are only defending their right to self-determination and respect for their sovereignty and national dignity.

LA REPUBLICA on Gen Cisneros

PA2706044389 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 26 Jun 89 p 5

["Vox Populi" column by Luis Restrepo Rosas: "A Dangerous Man"]

[Text] At a military ceremony held recently at Fort Clayton, Panama City, General Mark Cisneros assumed control as commander of the U.S. Army South. According to information in LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA newspaper on 24 June, both Gen Cisneros and his superior officer, General Frederick Woerner, strongly criticized the Panama Defense Forces. The Panamanian Government immediately noted that the U.S. officers' critical statements were yet another serious U.S. intervention in Panama and a violation of the agreements made by both countries in the Panama Canal and Panama Canal Permanent Neutrality Treaties.

Gen Cisneros believes any action taken by Panamanian officials considered to be a threat to the lives of U.S. citizens in Panama "will receive a prompt and adequate response." The U.S. officer thus takes it upon himself to determine what constitutes "a threat to the lives of U.S. citizens in Panama."

Gen Marc Cisneros' military resume was published in the April-May 1989 issue of "DIALOGO SOCIAL" magazine. On reading it, the reader is able to see that Gen Cisneros is a very dangerous officer and a threat to our nation's security.

Cisneros served twice in Vietnam—first as G-3 deputy adviser assigned to Saigon during the Tet offensive in 1968 and later as a district adviser in Quang Ngai Province. As a Central American expert, Gen Cisneros prepared and conducted the the "Golden Pheasant" joint military excercises in Honduras in March 1988. Cisneros was responsible for the logistics and quick mobilization of 3,000 soldiers in full combat gear. In Latin American civilian circles, Gen Cisneros is seen "as an aggressive officer who is indifferent to the rights of the countries and people in the region."

When the name of Gen Cisneros is heard, a vision of May Lai—the massacred Vietnamese community—comes immediately to mind. If Gen Cisneros "considers the security of his compatriots threatened"—even if it is only an assumption—he would not mind razing Chorrillo [low-income area in Panama City] to the ground and killing all its residents or destroying all of Panama with blood and fire.

Gen Cisneros is a mortal threat to Panama and its people. However, for those who are willing to exchange our fatherland for the presidential sash, Gen Cisneros represents hope, even if it means ruin, desolation, and death.

Paper Criticizes Military Ceremony

PA2606144589 Panama City LA REPUBLICA DOMINICAL in Spanish 25 Jun 89 p 1A

[Text] A general [Mark Cisneros] with a Latin American background—and among those who are called "worms" because he was one of the defeated invaders at the "Bay of Pigs—has assumed command of the U.S. Southern Command [as published] stationed in our territory. There is nothing wrong with this, if it were not for the fact that this general, as well as his predecessor, marred the prestige of a military ceremony and turned it into a political act of unjustified threats that insulted our people, thus staining the honor of the U.S. Armed Forces.

This has surprised and shocked many. The soldiers sent to Panama by their chiefs to fight a nonexistent war—to a strange country on a mission that makes no sense—are not to be blamed for this.

These generals have not yet understood the Panamanian reality, despite the time they have spent with us. Amid a stupid psychological and provocative campaign, they have not understood the reality of the situation. They do not understand that in Panama, there is a sovereign people that supports their Defense Forces led by a level-headed commander who has had the intelligence and ability to prevent a confrontation at all costs. Although this confrontation would have made the Panamanins shed many tears and much blood, it would stain beyond eternity those who decided to again use force against a Latin American country.

The only reason our people have authorized the U.S. troops to stay in Panama is for defense of the canal. That is its only mission in our country, and apparently the generals who held a political meeting on Fort Clayton this week have forgotten this. In Panama, there are people who will fight courageously and once again make those who try to impose themselves by way of force in our country bite the dust of defeat.

Armed intervention in Panama would only serve to stain the water of the Panama Canal with the blood of U.S. youths.

Radio Interviews Canal Commission Official
PA2606163489 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Jun 89

[Interview with Fernando Manfredo, deputy administrator of the Panama Canal Commission (PCC) by Dayra Barsallo; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Barsallo] We want to know your opinion concerning the new administrator in 1990.

[Manfredo] I think what is most important is to point out the tasks this Panamanian must tackle. First, his main responsibility will be to manage the Panama Canal. He must have enough administrative skills to contribute and to provide leadership so that the canal is managed efficiently. He must know about accounting, operations, business policies, and industrial and human relations. Those are the types of skills and experience that the new canal administrator must have because this is not a regular job. Through experience, I know that this is a very difficult job. The canal's management is a complex job. There are lots of rules and guidelines that must be closely followed. On the other hand, the person must necessarily be able to lead within the PCC. He has to earn the support and respect of the labor force, which is responsible for all the daily activities. This person must also earn the respect and trust of the international maritime community because, after all, the community has been somewhat apprehensive about the canal administration being turned over to the Republic of Panama.

I believe these next 10 years under Panamanian administration will be an example of what Panama is really capable of doing. Therefore, this Panamanian must have [changes thought] we must not take any risks with this Panamanian because he will be the image we will show everyone. This person must have administrative skills. He must also have personal integrity. He must be able to get along with others. He should have a positive image. Also, this Panamanian must clearly understand his role, which is to make sure that we reach the year 2000 with a 100-percent Panamanian labor force that is well-trained and well-motivated. He must make sure that enough resources are allocated for training employees. He must make sure that PCC policies are consistent with the objective of keeping Panamanian employees in their jobs with the same sense of loyalty and pride for the enterprise because it is well-managed.

Something else that is important is to make sure that Panama not only receives the canal in good operational condition but that the canal is also competitive. Therefore, this Panamanian must make sure that the U.S. Government does not create problems for the approval of investment budgets to replace obsolete equipment and to make improvements so that the canal remains modern. These improvements could include increasing the canal's capacity to handle bigger ships. This is the great task that must be faced by the person who will have the responsibility of managing the canal over the next 10 years. Moreover, this person must have the necessary strength of character to prevent his authority from being diminished. He should not become a mere figurehead; this would be a complete disaster, because as soon as this Panamanian loses his authority, he would lose the workers' respect and the people's trust. He should make sure his authority is preserved. He must have the support of the government he represents because he is Panama's representative in the canal's administration.

[Barsallo] A little over 10 years remain before the canal is turned over to Panama. Will the government need to implement new policies to manage the canal?

[Manfredo] This is how I see it. The Panamanian Government needs appropriate plans, period, not only to manage the canal but to manage the country as well. I know what I am talking about because I was a government official for 10 years and a cabinet minister for 7 years. Panama has always lacked appropriate plans because we have never had planners among us. We have had only economists working as planners. They usually do an excellent job up to the point where they have to give a diagnostic assessment. However, when it comes to turning the diagnostic assessment into specific programs and schedules to be implemented, this is not done.

That is why, before going to work today, I closely followed over the radio the statements made by the minister in charge of the presidency [Manuel Solis Palma], who issued precise instructions to the planning minister in this regard. He wants specific plans and programs with specific objectives, priorities, policies, resources, and mechanisms for supervision.

In addition to these planning policies, there should also be plans that make the canal being reverted to Panama in the year 2000 not only a historic event, but also an event without administrative chaos, in which the canal is turned over to a completely different administrative system, such as that in Panama. The situation would even be more serious if, in the year 2000, the canal has a very efficient organization, but the [the country] has a completely obsolete and outdated public administration like we have today. Therefore, I believe that if we follow Manuel Solis Palma's guidelines, not only until 31 August, but for the next 5 years and the 5-year period after that, we can reach the goal of making the necessary plans to be prepared to assume the canal's responsibility into a symbolic event that would not cause any upheaval for the canal's administration.

[Barsallo] Does the latest increase in canal tolls benefit Panama?

[Manfredo] The increase in canal tolls does not represent fiscal benefits for Panama because Panama does not have a share in the canal revenues—Panama gets a share from the tonnage that passes through the Panama Canal—but the increase certainly benefits Panama in that it is necessary. The tolls are increased to cover maintenance, training, and administrative expenses and to refurbish the canal. Therefore, Panama must support the necessary increases in tolls so there is no scrimping—which would be detrimental for Panama.

However, I want to make something very clear: It is true that the Panamanian members of the PCC Directorate Board have abstained from approving toll increases, but not because they did not recognize the need to make periodical adjustments to the toll rate when revenue levels are below the increase in expenses—for example, due to inflation. The Republic of Panama has stated that the United States claim was for a series of disbursements that cannot be described as canal operation expenses and should be paid by the U.S. Treasury. Panama has stated that the toll increase would not be necessary because, if the United States stopped charging these expenses—which are not operational expenses—to canal accounts, we would not challenge them.

[Barsallo] Dr Manfredo, in conclusion, what are your views on the current politial relations between Panama and the United States? Will they make it difficult to faithfully implement the Torrijos-Carter Treaties?

[Manfredo] I have said on several occasions that both the United States and Panama have a responsibility that goes beyond their national interests concerning the canal. Therefore, neither country has the right to involve the canal in their political controversies. For example, I believe that the United States acts wrongly when, for political reasons, it fails to appoint a new PCC Directorate Board member; when it refuses to acknowledge that the Panamanian Government has decided to remove a PCC Directorate Board member—even though the treaties give the Panamanian Government the right to do this; when it makes it difficult for Panamanian members to participate in the directorate board; when the payments specified in the treaty are not turned over to the Panamanian Govermment, but are transferred to a bank account in the United States; and when it threatens, as it has, to not appoint a Panamanian administrator.

I believe that [the United States] has chosen the wrong road to settle its dispute with the Republic of Panama. Both countries have a responsibility toward a lot of countries concerning the canal, and it is not appropriate to involve the Panama Canal in the two countries' political issues.

Solis Palma Begins Audit of State Institutions

PA2606193589 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Text] Beginning today, the government will undertake a presidential-level audit as the initial means to fight the corruption in government institutions that the public has criticized. President Manuel Solis Palma made the announcement at a meeting with rank-and-file leaders of Cocle Province on Saturday, 24 June.

The audit will initially be carried out in the IRHE [Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification], MOP [Public Works Ministry], BDA [Agricultural Development Bank], and other major state institutions.

From the beginning of his administration in February 1988, the president has been revealing the people's charges about the sale of fuel, spare parts, and equipment by officials of state institutions, actions that negatively affect both the government's image and its responsibility for meeting the people's needs. In light of this, we are going to carry out a presidential-level audit beginning on 26 June to see how we can end corruption, the president said at the Cocle meeting.

The president said we cannot and must not give the country signs of corruption and inefficiency. He added: We must change the way individuals act so that we can undertake the tasks of national liberation and the strengthening of Torrijism.

Solis Palma explained that his administration must get rid of useless officials. His remarks reinforce the order issued to the Planning and Economic Policy Ministry to carry out an administrative audit so that future national development plans will be based on objectives and goals that are clearly defined in work plans. These plans will establish the real number of officials needed as well as the position held by those entrusted with the tasks.

The president's remarks on Saturday repeated what he told recently appointed officials: that there is much to be done by the government and that high-ranking officials

must demand work from their subordinates, because idleness cannot be accepted in the government and because they must get rid of useless workers.

Criticizes Government Corruption

PA2706043989 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Statement by Manuel Solis Palma, Panamanian minister in charge of the Presidency; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] We must clean up public administration. There are many complaints. The community is complaining about irregularities in public office, including those carried out by both high-ranking and low-level officials. The community is complaining that even secretaries charge taxpayers for making photocopies or for delivering documents. The people are saying that officials are selling government property at very low prices or simply giving it away. Taxpayers are complaining that public employees take away government equipment. There is also the problem of the use of government vehicles after working hours.

There is another basic problem: We want public employees to work. One gets a very bad impression when one sees public employees in the streets during working hours or when one sees employees walking up and down the halls of their office buildings doing nothing. I believe that office heads must exercise control over their subordinates.

Changes in high-ranking government positions require changes in mid-level positions as well. If mid-level officials refuse to cooperate or to do the work they are assigned, they must be replaced by others—not by people who are friends of the office heads, but by efficient people. I believe that the policy of hiring the boss' friends must end. That policy must end, because the administration cannot continue to be inefficient and to handle its resources and funds inappropriately.

Authorities Issue Statement on War Against Drugs

PA2706034789 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 26 Jun 89 pp 1, 8

[Text] Panamanian Attorney General Carlos Villalaz, president of the National Commission for the Investigation and Prevention of Drug-Related Crimes, and Lt Col Nivaldo Madrinan, general director of the Panama Defense Forces National Department of Investigations, on the occasion of the celebration of the international day for the struggle against drug trafficking and the illegal use of drugs, and in accordance with UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/42/112 of 19 January 1988, issue the following statement:

1. For the last 20 years, Panama has played an important role in the international struggle against drug trafficking and drug abuse. Panama's efforts have been inspired by the firm conviction that the illegal use of drugs is a chronic evil in our century and that we will completely eradicate it only with a joint and firm will.

2. Panama's efforts in the struggle against drugs have covered the four specific fields of action dealing with drugs. In other words: prevention and rehabilitation, which fights drug consumption and illegal use of drugs; eradication of drug production; effective control and elimination of laundering of drug-trafficking money; and effective control and eradication of drug-trafficking routes, drug transportation and distribution, and sale of drugs. Good results in the struggle against drug trafficking can only be obtained with determination, well-trained and professional units, and the formation of adequate teams that conduct effective operations.

3. Authorities frequently face the drug problems from the point of view of drug confiscations and arrests of drug traffickers. Those aspects are undeniably important. However, on this occasion, we want to emphasize other specific areas of action, which, in our opinion, must be considered as priority needs we must fulfill with the contribution of the society we serve. Drug consumption and the amount of crimes it develops are true dangers to our society. We can face that problem by considering that the family is the basis of our society and that it is the family's duty to guide the behavior of its members to protect patriotic and social values and develop a society that seeks God and His will as a source of inspiration.

4. Consequently, as public authorities and on the occasion of the celebration today, 26 June, of the international day for the struggle against drug trafficking and the illegal use of drugs, we reiterate the Panamanian Government's firm determination to conduct active programs against drug trafficking. We will do this regardless of the suicidal actions of several governments on this continent, which mix their domestic or foreign policies with the programs against drug problems without considering the unfair and unjustified blockade the United States is using against our country and regardless of the slanderous campaigns that lose all their strength before Panama's historic reality. [sentence as published] As part of this struggle against drugs, in which we will not allow the involvement of domestic or foreign interests, we call each Panamanian mother and father to reflect and join efforts to further protect our children with the help of God and to take them away from the path of self-destruction to where drugs would finally lead them.

Panama, 26 June 1989.

Argentina

Mendoza Government Signs Agreement With USSR

PY2606152289 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0031 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Mendoza, 25 Jun (TELAM)—Rodolfo Gabrielli, Mendoza Province economic minister, and Vladilen Nikitin, minister of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [title as received], have signed a protocol for the speedy implementation of economic exchanges between the Argentine province and the Soviet Republic.

The protocol signed by Gabrielli and Nikitin emphasizes the need to jointly study the financial resources and the compensation criteria to be adopted by the two parties. [sentence as received]

The agreement includes the possibility of reexporting metallurgical products from Mendoza to the USSR, to third countries, and to the Argentine market, as well as the possibilities of creating binational enterprises. [passage omitted]

Central Bank Devalues Austral by 6.19 Percent

PY2706035489 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 27 Jun 89

[Text] The Central Bank today devalued the austral by 6.19 percent against the U.S. dollar. The official exchange rate of the dollar as of today is 242 to sell and 240 to buy. The accrued devaluation for the months totals 37.14 percent.

Bolivia

Government Plans To Close Consulates in PRC

PY2606140489 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Text] Foreign Ministry officials are taking the necessary steps to close the Bolivian Consulates in Canton and Shanghai. According to Foreign Ministry sources, these consulates are involved in the irregular issuing of passports to Chinese citizens.

According to the migration under secretary, this week the ministry will take the necessary steps to comply with the instructions aimed at putting an end to the problem. Most of the irregularities in the issuing of the passports occurred at the consulates in Canton and Shanghai. The government has, therefore, decided to close those consulates as well as those in Macau and Hong Kong.

Throughout this week, the ministry will conduct investigations to identify the officials involved. These officials will then testify concerning the irregularities in court. Foreign Ministry Migration Under Secretary Walter Gumucion will also be questioned regarding some irregularities attributed to him.

According to Foreign Ministry sources, the president of the Republic has ordered investigations into the case in order to identify those who have failed to fulfill their duties in representing the country abroad.

Minister Decries Town's Protection of Trafficker

PY2606160089 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0223 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Excerpt] La Paz, 25 Jun (EFE)—The Bolivian Government and the U.S. Embassy in La Paz today reported that the civilian population of the zone of Santa Ana de Yacuma, El Beni Department, provides protection to drug traffickers. Santa Ana is located some 980 km northeast of La Paz.

Bolivian Interior Minister Eduardo Perez has stated that the 21 June confrontation between troops from the Mobile Units for Rural Areas [UMOPAR], an organization created for the control of drug trafficking, and the inhabitants of Santa Ana, shows that the local population is providing protection to drug traffickers.

We will not allow territories to protect drug traffickers and prevent the specialized organizations from successfully carrying out their anti-drug actions, the ministeer stated.

UMOPAR's objective in Santa Ana was to detain presumed trafficker Hugo Rivero. An arrest warrant has already been issued against Rivero because there is sufficient evidence of his involvement with drugs, the minister added.

Perez stated: "The confrontation between UMOPAR and sectors of the civilian population of that town shows that the people are protecting illegal drug trafficking activity, because a few hours after the confrontation we were told that Hugo Rivero was seen walking freely on the streets of Santa Ana." [passage omitted]

Brazil

Rumors Fly on Possible Early Transfer of Power

PY2606170089 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 25 Jun 89 p 5

[Text] Porto Alegre—Should an understanding be achieved between the government and the political parties for the control of the economic process, President Jose Sarney has mentioned the possibility of an early transfer of power. Deputy Luis Roberto Ponte, Government leader in the Chamber of Deputies, (PMDB-RS) [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party—Rio Grande do Sul State] yesterday raised this possibility in Porto Alegre on defending a proposal for national agreement." [quotation mark as published] According to Ponte, this is the only solution to the current economic and political situation in the country. He added that talks between the presidents of the political parties and the national Congress economic experts are in an advanced stage.

Ponte said that the main leaders in the economic sector in Congress, among whom he cited Deputies Jose Serra (PSDB) [Brazilian Social Democratic Party], Francisco Dornelles (PFL) [Liberal Front Party], Delfim Netto (PDS) [Social Democratic Party], Cesar Maia (PDT) [Democratic Workers Party], and Osmundo Reboucas (PMDB), are already discussing the need for layoffs in the public sector, control of expenditures, and even the elimination of ministries.

Ponte stated: The government has the same idea, and whatever the group says, the government endorses it.

Conflicting Reports Over Sarney's Resignation
PY2606195089 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Text] Marcondes Gadelha, the Liberation Front Party (PFL) leader at the Senate, said in Brasilia today that President Sarney has never mentioned the possibility of leaving the Presidency ahead of time. Deputy Roberto Ponte, the government leader at the Chamber of Deputies, however, has said that President Sarney is ready to make any sacrifice.

The only topic being discussed at the Alborada Palace this morning was Deputy Ponte's statement. The news that President Sarney would be ready to leave office before 15 March 1990 has surprised even the president's closest friends. Everyone was still more surprised when Deputy Ponte left Alborada Palace this morning and confirmed the news.

He merely corrected a few details of the news that has been published. According to Ponte, President Sarney had never considered the possibility of resigning, but he is now ready to resign if the politicians and the Brazilian society in general believe that his resignation would help to consolidate the democratic transition process.

[Begin Ponte recording] I do not believe that the politicians will understand this decision, first, because the president must use all his time, until his last day in office, to take positions that may look unpopular at first. Second, because he would thus be leaving to the new president, whose name is still unknown, the credit of bringing peace to the country, of solving the nations problems, and of implementing national development and social justice. This way, in an unbiased manner, without any [words indistinct], choosing no side. This is what the president must do the best of. [passage as heard] [end recording]

PLF leader Senator Marcondes Gadelha, however, increased confusion on the issue when he left the Alborada Palace. Gadelha insisted that President Sarney has rejected the idea and does not even admit the possibility of leaving power ahead of time. Gadelha, who heard Deputy Ponte's interview, insisted on his version.

[Begin Gadelha recording] This would be an illegal and unconstitutional imposition, which the president would not accept. If we continue to discuss the topic, we will be discussing a nonentity. I insist that the discussion is over [end recording].

Communications Minister Antonio Carlos Magalhaes has expressed the opinion that the possibility of changing the date of the new president's installation must be discussed in the future. He voiced his opinion in Rio de Janeiro this morning:

[Begin Magalhaes recording] I believe the topic must be discussed after the new president is elected, and that will depend on the way he is elected—if it is in the first round or not. After he is elected he can discuss the subject with President Sarney. It is not convenient to discuss it now. This may be a maneuver to jeopardize the elections. No one can endanger the elections. The elections will be held normally, and the installation ceremony will be held on 15 March. [end recording]

Soviet-Made Anti-Hail Rockets Installed
PY2606160589 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Text] The physical structure of the meteorological radar base and the anti-hail rocket-launching pads has been concluded. The radar and rockets are being installed in Lebon Regis, Santa Catarina State, more than 400 km west of Florianapolis.

This report was released by (Amilton Vieira), a member of the Agricultural and Livestock Research Enterprise office, of Santa Catarina, which is in charge of coordinating the installation of the radar and its 32 anti-hail rockets.

The radar and anti-hail rockets, purchased from the Soviet Union at an estimate cost of $2 million, will be able to provide information on meteorological conditions for a range of up to 300 km, thus covering the entire southern region and part of Sao Paulo.

The INPE [National Institute of Space Research] is providing advisory support in the installation. The radar and rockets arrived in Santa Catarina with the participation of the Finance, the Aeronautics, the Army, and the Foreign Ministries.

Among other functions, the radar will also provide support services to the Crisis Project [Projecto Crise] being developed by the FURB [University Foundation of the Blumenau Region—Fundacao Universitaria da Regiao de Blumenau], for the prevention and control of flooding in the Itajai Valley.

Chile

Establishment Reacts to Aylwin Statement

Army Supports Pinochet

PY2306202489 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Text] The Chilean Army High Command has reiterated its support for Army Commander in Chief General Augusto Pinochet, stating that the Constitution says that he can remain in his post until 1998. In addition, the command stated that those who intend to disregard the Constitution will have to face the consequences.

A high command communique has been released by Brigadier General (Fritz Glavenich), the coordinating secretary of the Army commander's office.

The communique was issued after the conclusion of a meeting at the Defense Ministry. The meeting was chaired by Army Deputy Commander in Chief Lieutenant General Jorge Zincke Quiroz.

The communique states that in view of repeated and biased opinions voiced by persons or political groups, opinions that violate the Constitution concerning the continuation of the head of state as Army commander in chief, the Army High Command states the following:

The constitutional laws, which were accepted by the majority and were approved by the citizenry in September 1980, provide for the Army commander in chief to legitimately remain in his post until 1998. Any change in this regard entirely depends up on him.

The opinions of those who believe the contrary are openly violating basic natural laws. Those who intend to violate these laws are supporting positions in opposition to the structure of the Army which, along with the other national defense institutions, has the unescapable duty of safeguarding the institutional order, either through its representatives or by the legitimate use of force.

Therefore, the Army communique adds, in addition to reiterating its unswerving support and loyalty to its commander in chief, Captain General Augusto Pinochet, the Army rejects any type of attitude that does not contribute to the transition to a full, stable, and modern democracy that the majority of Chileans want in order to achieve the level of development and well-being our nation deserves. Anything else is just pathetic deceit that is being rejected and repudiated by the Army, the communique notes.

In conclusion, the Chilean Army High Command states that those who intend to disregard the Constitution or any constitutional provisions will have to face the consequences.

Navy Backs Army

PY2406195289 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 Jun 89

[Text] Referring to the declaration issued by the Army High Command, Admiral Jose Toribio Merino said in Talcahuano that in view of the insolence of a precandidate to the Presidency, which is what Patricio Aylwin intends to be, it is a good thing that a declaration clearly stating the role to the played by the National Security Council was issued.

Merino added that Mr Aylwin is looking for support from the communists, for ther votes. This is quite clear. It is a political maneuver designed to annoy the Army and make the Marxists happy.

Merino said that the Chilean people should realize that those who support Aylwin are voting for the socialists and communists, the same ones who forced us to the actions of 11 September 1973.

Merino ended by stating that the Navy supports the will of the commanders of the armed forces and the security forces. The Navy commander made this statement as he stepped off the [name indistinct] speed boat after a short trip around Talcahuano Bay to conclude the christening ceremony of that vessel at the ASMAR [Naval Docks and Yards] shipyard in Talcahuano.

Cabinet Issues Statement

PY2406163089 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 24 Jun 89

[Text] Interior Minister Carlos Caceres said today that the statement [not further identified] by Patricio Aylwin, spokesman of the Coalition of Parties for Democracy, regarding the Army's leadership by no means contributes to the national unity or civic coexistence necessary for the upcoming electoral phase.

Minister Caceres made this statement after disclosing a declaration drawn up during a cabinet meeting. The declaration refers to a statement by Patricio Aylwin regarding the Army's commander in which, quote, he passes judgements and makes criticisms that could seriously affect the current state of law. [no close quote as heard]

During a news conference, the interior minister said that the Council of Ministers meeting, attended by all ministers except for those accompanying President Augusto Pinochet on his tour of the second region who were represented by their respective secretaries, agreed to issue a 4-point declaration which states:

As Patricio Aylwin well knows, President Pinochet above all is a soldier at the service of the Republic. In his capacity as commander in chief of the Army, President Pinochet was compelled to assume the country's political leadership with the commanders of the other defense

forces in order to avoid a civil war and to establish an authentic democratic regime, whose essence has been destroyed in an attempt to establish a totalitarian Marxist system in Chile.

The Armed Forces are essential for national safety and along with the public security forces they guarantee the Republic's constitutional order. The Constitution provides for the continuity of the Army commander in chief in his post precisely because of the Army's aforementioned duty and because [words indistinct] full democratic phases which is starting requires great prudence and stability.

The chief of state will exercise this right and duty for the well being of the country's future and with the same patriotism with which he has assumed his other military and civic duties.

The Council of Ministers is certain that the citizenry will appreciate the spirit and objective of the constitutional laws that refer to the performance of the commanders in chief and director general of the Carabineros in their post since the transition process we have experienced and the development of the basic institutions was possible thanks to this government. These institutions require the participation and cooperation of the Armed and Carabinero Forces in the future as these forces have been, and continue to be, responsible for their future stability.

The Council of Ministers wishes to point out that the upcoming electoral phase is necessary to achieve national unity and civic coexistence. This will be possible not only with declarations but mainly with moderate and prudent attitudes.

Unfortunately, it is public and obvious that Patricio Aylwin's statement by no means contributes to establishing this spirit, which is necessary for the peaceful and orderly transition toward democracy.

Socialists Support Aylwin

PY2606192889 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Excerpts] The Almeyda faction and the Jorge Arrate faction of the Socialist Party have voiced their support for opposition spokesman Patricio Aylwin and for his statement regarding General Pinochet's permanence as commander in chief of the Army.

Hernan del Canto, leader of the Socialist Almeyda faction, refuted Admiral Jose Toribio Merino's statement that Aylwin had made his comments in an attempt to obtain votes from the leftist sector. [passage omitted]

Jorge Arrate, in turn, said that every citizen has a right to voice his opinion. [passage omitted]

Arrate added that: We do not believe that it would be beneficial for the transition period if Gen Pinochet were to continue as commander in chief of the Army.

Arrate concluded by saying that if the government was not certain that Patricio Aylwin will be the next president of the Republic, the Army High Command would not have issued a declaration refuting his statement as it did on Friday 23 June.

Aylwin Reacts Further

PY2706034089 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Text] Patricio Aylwin, the most likely presidential candidate for the Coalition of Parties for Democracy [CPPD], said that the communique issued by the Army High Command on Friday, 23 June, represents a serious violation of the 1980 Constitution. It should be recalled that the declaration was issued to refute Aylwin's statement regarding General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte's permanence as commander in chief of the Army during the process of transition toward democracy.

This morning the opposition politician issued a personal statement harshly criticizing the declaration of the Army High Command.

[Begin Aylwin recording] By giving their opinion on current political issues and by threatening to resort to force, the authors of the declaration issued by the Army High Command are seriously violating the Constitution which they pledge to defend. Moreover, their threat is by no means in keeping with a state of law. The constitutional principle which states that no authority has the right to attribute to himself any authority or right other than those expressed by the Constitution and the law also rules the Armed Forces. No constitutional article authorizes its commander to interfere in political issues to the detriment of the National Security Council. [end recording]

Aylwin added that no one doubts that, according to the Constitution, Gen Pinochet can continue as Army commander in chief until 1998, which means he would serve in the same post for 25 years. Many of us think that this fact, which is legally possible, might not be convenient for either Chile, the Army, or Gen Pinochet himself. Aylwin added that, contrary to what it is said by the Army High Command, his position is not tantamount to undermining civic coexistence.

Aylwin stated that to disagree with a constitutional article does not mean one ignores its enforcement or undermines anything. He added that people are exaggerating by treating a temporary article of the current Constitution as a basic law that contributes to achieve civic coexistence.

Aylwin noted that to say that Pinochet has been the architect of Chilean politics, that he is a controversial figure in the country, is no offense but merely the truth. Aylwin said he only seeks an understanding among Chileans based on truth and justice.

[Begin Aylwin recording] I have endorsed these principles during my life and throughout the negotiations of the agreements on the constitutional reforms that will pave the way for an orderly and peaceful transition to democracy and which will be submitted to a plebiscite in July.

The country can rest assured that if I win the presidential election I will fully exercise the powers vested in me to achieve the recovery of democracy and to comply with the Constitution and the law.

Concerning the continuity of Gen Pinochet as Army commander, I reiterate my confidence that with patriotism, justice, and dignity, we will be able to find a solution that best suits the nation. [end recording]

Aylwin pointed out: I speak when I think I should, not when others ask me to do so.

[Begin Aylwin recording] Whenever I speak it is because I think I should speak and not because others ask me to do so. Those who insult me because they believe that my statements are the result of a compromise or seek to obtain votes are wrong. Moreover, this is a very selfish and despicable view of politics. [end recording]

We will not be deceived by those who seek to create an atmosphere of belligerency and mistrust within the Armed Forces institutions by obstructing an agreement with the CPPD or by those who want to interfere in the current electoral process.

Finally, Aylwin said that his statement on Gen Pinochet was nothing new and that any scandal was aimed at creating an artificial conflict.

Legal Action Taken Against Union Leader

PY2406002689 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Excerpts] This afternoon Interior Ministry attorney Carlos Ramos started legal proceedings at the Supreme Court against Victor Hugo Gag, president of the General Confederation of Transport Workers, CGTT.

When asked about the judicial reasons behind the ministry's decision, Ramos said that Gag had called on the members of his confederation to strike yesterday in Santiago. [passage omitted]

CGTT leader Victor Hugo Gag, responding to the Interior Ministry's legal proceedings against him, said that the government has once again taken the wrong path for solving the problem of the citizenry. [passage omitted] Gag said that the decision has no grounds since the strike, which was agreed on during a national assembly, developed very calmly and the members of this sector acted very peacefully. [passage omitted]

40 Postal Workers, Union Leader Detained

PY2306012089 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Some 40 workers of the Chilean Postal Enterprise [Empresa de Correos de Chile] and Hernol Flores, the secretary general of the Democratic Central Organization of Workers [CDT], were detained at noon today as they marched peacefully toward La Moneda Palace to protest budget cuts and the cancellation of some of the services of the Chilean Postal Enterprises.

Earlier, the workers demonstrated at the hall [preceding word in English] of the Chilean Postal Enterprise building on Santiago's main square, where Manuel Romero, the president of the trade union of the Chilean Postal Enteprise workers, read a communique:

[Begin Romero recording] Everything that has been denied to the enterprise and its workers for their development would not cost the state a single peso, because the enterprise itself has enough funds to meet the legitimate demands of the workers and the enterprise. Those demands have been designed for efficient and profitable service to the national and international community. According to the statistics of the World Postal Union, the Chilean postal service ranks second only to Japan in efficiency. [End recording]

The postal workers are basically asking for an increase in the enterprise's operational budget and the reinstatement of the parcel post service, the cancellation of which has been announced for 1 July 1989. They are also asking that the number of workers and the salaries be increased.

In the communique, the workers state that there is a plot against the enterprise, designed to make it appear inefficient, thus justifying the future privatization of the enterprise, as has already happened to the state telegraph service.

The workers' communique adds that they fear that the parcel post service will be removed first and will then be followed by the postal draft service, printed matter service, and other services in order to reduce post office service to a minimum.

After the demonstration, a group of workers marched toward La Moneda Palace, but they were intercepted by the carabineros on Moneda Street, just a few meters before reaching Morande Street.

Some 40 post office workers are now reportedly being detained at the First Carabinero Precinct.

Police Discover Clandestine Radio Station

PY2706010889 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Text] The police have discovered a clandestine radio station that has been operating in the Talagante area for more than 1 year. The radio station has been broadcasting subversive slogans and has interfered with other radio stations and television programs.

Here is a report from Talagante by Manuel Guerrero.

[Begin recording] Personnel of the Talagante investigative police have detained a person involved in the operation of a clandestine radio station that has been broadcasting in this city for 1 year.

This clandestine FM radio station transmitted on 94.7 khz and disturbed some neighbors because it interfered with their television programs.

The detainee has been identified as Eduardo Fritz, 22. He lives in Talagante and is the main perpetrator. He often transmitted political slogans against the government of General Pinochet on this radio station.

The radio station was called Nueva Onda and it had an 8-km transmission range. Its home-made equipment was assembled by the detainee.

Fritz will be questioned by Judge Eugenio Guzman Fontaura to determine his responsibility, and to obtain information on other people involved in the transmissions. [end recording]

$140 Million Trade Surplus as of 15 May

PY2406144089 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 Jun 89

[Summary] According to the Central Bank, Chilean international reserves up to 15 May amounted to $2,647,700,000 while the trade balance showed a surplus of $140 million. The report notes that up to the same day Chilean exports amounted to $632.5 million while imports amounted to $492.5 million.

Colombia

ELN Considers Conditional Halt of Attacks

PA2706155989 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0504 GMT 27 Jun 89

[Text] Bogota, 26 Jun (EFE)—The Army of National Liberation (ELN), the guerrilla group that is affecting Colombia's petroleum exports because of its actions, announced today that it is willing to "consider halting its attacks."

The ELN, which over the past few days has caused $240 million in losses, is demanding the dismissal of Mines and Energy Minister Oscar Mejia Vallejo and Andres Restrepo Londono, manager of the Colombian Petroleum Enterprise (ECOPETROL).

In a communique, the ELN detailed the "conditions" that must be met to "consider halting the attacks on the country's petroleum infrastructure." The communique was signed by former Spanish priest Manuel Perez Martinez, political leader of the ELN, and placed in the mailbox of the EFE offices in Bogota.

The ELN, which since 1987 has been criticizing what it terms the bad exploitation of the country's petroleum resources by the state, asked to hold a national petroleum forum to seek a "nationalist and sovereign policy" on petroleum.

It also wants the establishment of a national petroleum council that would guarantee that policy, "because the government and ECOPETROL have been acting without keeping national interest in mind."

According to the communique, the council should include the Workers Labor Union (which organizes the petroleum workers), the Federation of Petroleum Workers, the United Workers Federation, and the Leftist Front [Frente de Izquierda].

According to official estimates, the ELN has caused more than $700 million in losses to the state over the past 18 months as a result of attacks on the petroleum infrastructure.

Army Deals 'Heavy' Blow to ELN Cell in Cali

PA2706123689 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Jun 89

[Text] The Army dealt a heavy blow in Cali this weekend to the Army of National Liberation [ELN], which in the recent past has been causing the country so many headaches. In a successful operation, the Army seized 65 Molotov cocktails, 15 sticks of dynamite, 5 kg of powdered sulphur, 3 containers of sulphuric acid, and maps of the Park of Flags and several commercial centers in Cali.

Military authorities believe this guerrilla group was planning a large-scale terrorist attack in the capital of El Valle. So far, three people have been arrested.

M-19 Leader Pizarro Criticizes ELN Attacks

PA2306034989 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Report by Zorayo Caicedo on interview with Carlos Pizarro, commander of the 19-April Movement, at the Santo Domingo camp in the mountains of Cauca Department—date not given]

[Text] M-19 [19-April Movement] Leader Carlos Pizarro has said that the Army of National Liberation [ELN] should change its warmongering attitude and instead

seek other ways to change the country's oil policy, adding that violence is not the path to be followed. He said that the M-19 has specifically invited the ELN to join the current peace process and to accept the opinion of Colombians, who unanimously reject the attacks against Colombia's oil resources.

[Begin Pizarro recording] We have repeatedly said that these are not times of war, but of dialogue; that we are now in a phase in which Colombians must try to overcome their differences through dialogue. We have issued a call to the [Simon Bolivar Guerrilla] Coordinating Board and specifically to the ELN. We hope the ELN will acknowledge national opinion, which today disapproves of the attacks on the oil pipelines and similar war actions and instead favors peace efforts. We disagree with the ELN. We respect their position, but we disagree with them. [end recording]

Pizarro also referred to the progress made in the peace process. He said that talks at the working tables have entered a definitions phase, adding that President Virgilio Barco must now reply to the proposals made by the spokesmen and party delegates.

ELN Damages Section of Pacific Pipeline 25 Jun

PA2606192189 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1745 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Report by Zoraida Caicedo]

[Text] The Camilist Union-Army of National Liberation [ELN] has carried out a new attack on the Pacific oil pipeline in Mulalo, Yumbo Municipality. The attack occurred at approximately 2200 yesterday when two men on a motorcycle set off 5 kg of dynamite. The explosion destroyed three sections of the pipeline that carries gasoline from tankers in Buenaventura to the Ecopetrol [Colombian Petroleum Enterprise] plant in Yumbo. Approximately 18,000 barrels of gasoline are pumped through this section of the pipeline daily. Pumping has been halted while the pipeline is repaired. Although the exact amount of the damage is still unknown, it is estimated that losses from the spilled gasoline and the damage to the pipeline are close to 20 million pesos.

This is the fifth dynamite attack on the Pacific pipeline by the ELN in Valle del Cauca Department in the past 6 months. One occurred in Buga Municipality 1 month ago, and the other four have taken place in the Mulalo area.

Communications Ministry Warns Radio Networks

PA2406014589 Bogota LA PRENSA in Spanish 16 Jun 89 p 10

[Text] Social Conservative Party candidate Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo initiated his political campaign 2 months ago, and some of his campaign "jingles" can be heard on the country's radio networks. A week ago, Communications Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds sent a letter to the media warning them that according to the law, political publicity in the media is only allowed 90 days before presidential and general elections.

Some radio networks, however, continued broadcasting the "jingles, so the Communications Ministry issued a communique yesterday repeating their warning.

The communique, received by Caracol [Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network], RCN [Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional], and Lider Network, partially stated: "Media that does not comply with the law will be penalized according to legal dispositions."

A letter to the those radio networks informs them they are violating Law 58 of 18 July 1985, because they are already broadcasting paid political announcements.

In his letter, the minister refers not only to Lloreda's publicity but also to the paid announcrments broadcast for the "First Liberal Force" movement headed by Senator Efrain Paez Espitia.

According to the letter, the organizations paying for the radio spots have "not complied with Article 19 of the mentioned law, which states all political parties and associations must accept and comply with the law's stipulations."

The Communications Ministry has also informed the government minister of the violations of the law by the networks and sent him the political publicity "former Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo and Senator Paez Espitia have been advancing in their campaigns to attain seats in the Senate." The Communications Ministry took this action so the government ministry can adopt the policies that have been established in this type of case.

On Friday, when Lemos issued his first warning, he said: "The violation of this regulation could result in the penalties the Electoral Court deems applicable against the parties involved and those the communications minister thinks should be imposed on the radio stations."

Police Arrest 10 Involved in EPL Group

PA2306220689 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Report by Ana Eloisa Zuniga]

[Text] An elite group of police from Bolivar Department last night dealt a heavy blow on an urban and rural group of the EPL [Popular Liberation Army]. The police found a training center in Mandinga, located between Mahates and Malagana, 45 km from Cartagena.

Ten people were arrested in Cartagena. They included Maria de Jesus Loeste, an official of the assessment office of Cartagena municipalilty; Arnulfo Anillo, a chemist; and Berta Bravo, a teacher. In raids in several

areas of Cartagena, Mahates, and Malagana, the police found Ingram submachine guns, .38-caliber revolvers, grenades, ammunition, chemicals, powerful explosive devices, uniforms, drugs, skin diving equipment, and identification documents. They also found blueprints of the Cartagena police stations, the Naval Base, [words indistinct], which were to be targets of terrorist attacks.

Army Kills 5 EPL Guerrillas in Cesar Department

PA2606192089 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Jun 89

[Text] Skirmishes have taken place in southern Cesar Department during the past few hours. Several subversives were killed, and the Army seized weapons. The situation in Cesar, however, is even more serious than this, judging from the following report by our correspondent Luis Francisco Herreno:

[Begin Herreno recording] Murders, kidnappings, ambushes of military forces, attacks against economic targets, disappearances, demands for protection money, and extortion are disrupting peace in six communities in southern Cesar Department and Northern Santander Department.

In only 150 days, over 100 people either have been killed or have disappeared, including 2 mayors, 20 soldiers, and 50 civic, union, and political leaders.

Troops of the Santander Battalion killed five guerrillas of the Popular Liberation Army [EPL] in San Alberto during the past few hours. The towns of San Martin, San Alberto, and Aguachica in Cesar Department and Ocana in Northern Santander Department are under the protection of the 2d Army Division because of the proliferation of guerrilla groups of the ELN [National Liberation Army], EPL, and other [word indistinct].

Military operations are continuing, and peace is beginning to return to this strife-torn region in eastern Colombia. [end recording]

Police Report Results of 'Operation Rainbow'

PA2506015889 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2017 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Text] Bogota, 23 June (DPA)— The Colombian authorities today reported that antidrug police patrols today continued to carry out intense operations to dismantle more cocaine processing laboratories throughout a large area of the country's interior.

The actions against the drug traffickers, called "Operation Rainbow," began a few days ago in the area along the banks of the Middle Magdalena River and have resulted in the destruction of 10 modern laboratories with a production capacity of approximately 10,000 kg of cocaine a week.

Police spokesmen have said that this antidrug operation, supported by helicopter gunships, has resulted in the seizure of approximately 210,000 gallons of ether and 1,200 kg of cocaine and the destruction of a clandestine airstrip for planes bringing cocaine paste from Bolivia and Peru.

According to the police report, a police helicopter attempted a raid on a large farm in this region on Wednesday but was shot at by guards. The report states that the guards are members of a right-wing paramilitary group financed by bands of drug traffickers, particularly the Medellin Cartel, an organization responsible for approximately 80 percent of the world's cocaine traffic.

In February, the police located 25 laboratories in the Middle Magdalena region; this is the area where drug traffickers and extreme right-wing paramiliary groups operate. The operation was part of "Operation Spring," one of the most successful operations launched by the Colombian authorities in recent years.

Government Appoints New Marine Commander

PA2406041689 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Summary] Lieutenant Colonel Victor Silva Cordoba has been appointed the new commander of the Marines Training Battalion No 1 headquartered in Covenas. He replaces Colonel Alonso de Jesus Franco Bedoya, recently removed from this post by the government.

Correction to Government Rejects ELN Offer

PA2606141089

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Government Rejects ELN Dialogue Proposal," published in the Colombia section of the 26 June Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 53, column one, paragraph four, sentence one, make read...to the PCC, the real reason for the rise in fuel prices is the Colombian Government's antinational fuel policy—namely, the Colombia...(rewording). Same paragraph, last sentence, make read...Barco's government today unveiled a series of...(rewording).

Ecuador

Foreign Minister on Panama Situation, Dialogue

PA2006173689 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Jun 89

[Report on interview with Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez by unidentified reporter—date and place not given]

[Text] Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez, who is a member of the delegation that traveled to Colombia with President Rodrigo Borja, said that a tripartite dialogue is the only way to overcome the Panamanian crisis.

[Begin recording] [Cordovez] It is not easy for them [not further identified]. Deep emotions are involved in this crisis, and there is [words indistinct] and great distrust in Panama. Thus far, the opposition has agreed to the (?talks). However, there are rather contradictory reports concerning the government parties, General Noriega [commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces (FDP)] and the FDP. Some say that they will agree to the proposals and others say that they will refuse to accept the proposals.

[Reporter] Does the delay in the government's response hinder the process?

[Cordovez] The delay in the government response [words indistinct].

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] has not given a response to the opposition [words indistinct].

[Cordovez] As we have already said, the opposition has already responded. The opposition is the only one that has responded to the initiative.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]

[Cordovez] No, the opposition did not make this proposal. The proposal was made by the [OAS] delegation. [end recording]

Judge Fired in Drug Case, Under Suspicion

PA2406150889 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0253 GMT 24 Jun 89

[Text] Quito, 23 Jun (EFE)—The Ecuadoran Supreme Court of Justice today fired Judge Jaime Sanchez, who reportedly released two men accused of sending drugs to the United States in chocolate bars.

Last week, Sanchez ordered the release of Luis Astudillo Ochoa and Carlos Vasquez Astudillo, the owners of a chocolate-manufacturing plant that sent drugs to the United States in what is now known in Ecuador as the chocococa case.

The judge has been accused of releasing Astudillo and Vasquez without first passing a sentence and without having in his possession the case file, which was at the Attorney General's Office at the time.

The Attorney General's Office is now looking into a possible connection between Sanchez and drug traffickers. He is the third judge handling drug-related cases fired in the past few months. Two other judges, still at large, were dismissed in March after they released Jewish-German drug trafficker Ralph Abrahamson, who paid them the equivalent of $20,000 for his freedom.

Paraguay

MOPOCO Demands Replacement of Interior Minister

PY2606172289 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 25 Jun 89 p 9

[Text] The Colorado Popular Movement [MOPOCO] last night issued a communique harshly repudiating the brutal attack by police and military forces against landless peasants who tried to peacefully march to Congress a few days ago. The MOPOCO also seeks to revive the good name of the Colorado Party and to replace Interior Minister Orlando Machuca Vargas and Chief of Police Francisco Sanchez.

In our capacity as members of a party of free men, we energetically repudiate the brutal attack by the police and military forces against a peaceful demonstration of landless peasants from the towns of Juan de Mena and Cleto Romero.

Inspired by Nero, Generals Orlando Machuca Vargas and Fransisco Sanchez, who graduated from the Armed Forces together with Stroessner, have adopted the same dictatorial mentality of the former commander in chief, whom they servilely served for more than 30 years, letting the beasts [police dogs] attack peaceful demonstrators the same as the Roman emperors used to do with the Christians in the coliseum in Rome. For this purpose they chose nothing less than the esplanade in front of the cathedral, which not long ago was the stage for the chain of hope formed by the citizenry, political, and church authorities.

We demand, at least, the replacement of the military officers with dubious democratic foundations, especially while in posts of a political nature, for which they are unfit.

We have had enough staining of the Colorado Party name with Nazi-Fascist attacks against the people!

For the Provisional Colorado Party Executive Board: (MOPOCO-authentic faction). Ruben Acosta Fleitas, president; Nicolas Russo G., press secretary, Marcos Alvarez Pereira, secretary general.

Paraguayan Communist Interviewed in Moscow

PY2406234689 Moscow in Spanish to Latin America 0000 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Second Part of interview with Antonio Rivera, member of the Propaganda Committee of the Paraguayan Communist Party, by Mikhail Tikhon; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Tikhon] Comrade Antonio Rivera, what chance do you think the Paraguayan Communist Party [PCP] has of getting official recognition and legal status?

[Rivera] The PCP has a historical background in Paraguay because of its 60 years of activity and the fact that its most outstanding members lost their lives in the struggle against the dictatorship. Many organizations and outstanding personalities have spoken in favor of legalizing the PCP. Only now is the suffering and the struggle of the communist leaders coming to light. This is the case of Livio Gonzalez Santander who has told the gloomy story of the Third Precinct Police Station where Antonio Maidana, Julio Rojas, and Alfredo Alcorta [communist leaders] have spent more than 20 years. Today this police station is a symbol of what our people have had to struggle against. Every day charges are made, and news agencies and newspapers carry stories about everything that communists and noncommunists—Catholics, peasants, and workers, members of the Liberal Party and the Febrerista Revolutionary Party—have suffered in the torture chambers.

At this time the main thing is that criminals like Pastor Coronel [former investigative police chief]; Lucilo Benitez, also known as Cururu Pire, a sinister torturer; and others currently in jail must be tried. Every time they have to go to court to testify, crowds gather to remind them of their crimes. This is very important because our people are building a historical memory through press reports of the crimes.

The PCP will obtain legal status. It is entitled to participate in the political life of the country because hundreds of communists have lost their lives in the struggle for democracy and freedom in Paraguay.

[Tikhon] What are the PCP's specific proposal for strengthening the democratic process?

[Rivera] We want to improve democracy in our country and expand the international relations of our country which is very isolated. It has spent 35 years being a backwater, a safe haven for murderers, drug traffickers, and internationally sought criminals such as Mengele; Ricord, the famous French drug trafficker; Anastacio Somoza; and other sinister Latin American individuals. All these people sought shelter in Paraguay, but all that is a thing of the past. Now we have to look to the future, and the specific proposal of the PCP is to strengthen democracy, obtain legal status for our party, and ensure that human rights are respected. Most important of all is to help find a solution to the anxieties of the Paraguayan peasants who are constantly fighting for a piece of land on which to live.

[Tikhon] What are the progressive organizations doing right now to help this come about?

[Rivera] The Catholic Church has done a great deal to help our people, even under the Stroessner regime. No one can deny the historical role of the Catholic Church in the struggle for respect for human rights. When a march for life and freedom was staged in December 1988 to mark the 40th anniversary of the UN Declaration on Human Rights, priests and believers took to the streets.

Neither can we forget the role that Paraguayan intellectuals and artists have played in our country. They have played a great role. Crowds attended the Ypacarai music festival at which revolutionary songs were sung. This festival was a veritable mass rally against the dictatorship, and Stroessner finally banned it.

Paraguayan artists and intellectuals have always spoken out against the dictatorship and in favor of human rights. The thing is that for many years very little was known about the struggle that our people were waging because the international news media never paid very much attention to our people's struggle. So now people are amazed at what is happening in Paraguay from day to day. What happened in Paraguay this February was not a sudden development. It was part of a long struggle during which hundreds and thousands of young people, peasants, and workers of every profession died.

According to an Amnesty International report, more than 350,000 Paraguayans spent time in jail. So you can see that Stroessner's ouster was not an overnight development. It was not the result of a general's whim. The young Army officers were forced to act by the events, by the sustained struggle of the peasants, the intellectuals, the artists, the church, and even the bougeoisie, the democratically minded merchants who felt that Stroessner's regime did not offer them the opportunity to develop economically because Stroessner had turned smuggling into a national institution, a source of income and a way of securing the loyalty of the most reactionary factions of the Army.

[Tikhon] Comrade Rivera, I would like to address an issue in which I have been involved as a journalist for Radio Moscow; namely, the fate of people who were arrested and are missing. What is being done in Paraguay to find out what happened to people who were arrested and are now missing, people like Comrade Maidana, Miguel Soler, and many other patriots?

[Rivera] Well, the case of Miguel Soler has received a lot of publicity lately. Pastor Coronel is being held responsible for Solor's disappearance. There are witnesses who say that Pastor Coronel killed Miguel Angel Soler. Their testimony carries a lot of weight because they saw Pastor Coronel kicking Soler, causing him to bleed to death, and then leaving him on a street corner. This was reported to the press. Miguel Angel Soler was killed by Pastor Coronel and his myrmidons. Soler's widow has reported this to the press and the courts in Asuncion. One court charge that Pastor Coronel is facing pertains to his involvement in the Soler affair.

The Maidana affair is a similar case only a bit more complicated because Maidana was kidnapped in Argentina. However, the main thing is that our people are demanding clarification of all cases of missing persons those of Soler, Miadana, and other patriots who are either missing or have been murdered. Right now the foremost goal of our youth and our people is to ensure that the cases will be clarified and the murderers of our people punished. This is the struggle that the PCP is waging. We want the missing persons, not only communists but others as well, found so that they can at least be given a Christian burial.

[Tikhon] Mr Rivera, thank you for answering our questions. We wish the Paraguayan people the best in their struggle for democracy in their country.

[Rivera] I would like to thank Radio Moscow for giving me the opportunity to address its vast audience in Latin America.

Youth Delegation Leaves for Festival in DPRK

PY2006154689 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 20 Jun 89 p 6

[Text] The Paraguayan delegation which will attend the International Youth and Students Festival (FMJE) left for Buenos Aires at 1500 yesterday. The youth group which is going to represent the Southern Cone will hold preparatory meetings in Buenos Aires.

Tomorrow the group will leave Buenos Aires on Aeroflot for the Soviet Union from where they will fly to the North Korean capital of Pyongyang where the festival will be held.

The festival which is held every 4 years will take place from 1 to 8 July in North Korea. The festival's slogan is "For Anti-imperialism Solidarity, Peace, and Friendship." There will be 15,000 youth from around the world attending the festival.

Adalberto Mongeles, youth leader of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party and member of the Paraguayan delegation, said: "We are a very ambitious youth group that wants to know what is going on; we want international contact. We believe that ideology should not restrict our relations with other countries."

Victor Barone, youth leader of the Popular Democratic Movement (MDP) and also a member of the delegation, said that the trip is funded by an international fund for solidarity which helps poor countries like ours. Regarding the delegation Barone said: "We do not have a unified proposal. We have our own ideas on various issues."

The other delegation members are Rodrigo Zelada of the Febrerista Revolutionary Party who heads the delegation, Raul Quinonez of the Paraguayan Students Federation (FEUP), Roberto Ferreira of the Humanist Party, Luis Mongelos of the Paraguayan Liberation Movement (MOPALI), Julio Lopez of the Workers Party, Miguel Baranda of the Alto Parana Representatives Association (ASAGRAPA), Bernardo Vallejos of the Communist Youth Federation, and artist Alberto Rodas.

Anibal Rolon who was going to represent the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] arrived a few minutes before departure time. Whe he got out of the car Rodrigo Zelada, president of the National Committee, told him that he could not travel because the PDC leadership and youth sector disqualified him from traveling in the name of the PDC. Alberto Rodas therefore replaced Rolon.

Rolon had to accept that decision even though he attended all the national committee meetings in preparation for the international event.

Peru

Armed Forces' Antiterrorist Operations Reported

PY2606141489 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2146 GMT 25 Jun 89

[Text] Lima, 25 Jun (EFE)—It was disclosed in this capital today that during the past few days, the Peruvian security forces have arrested 36 terrorists belonging to the Maoist "Shining Path" group and to the Guevara-leaning "Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement" (MRTA).

The arrests took place in Ancash Department, north of Lima, and in San Martin Department (northeastern Peruvian jungle area), where 22 alleged MRTA members were caught, according to police and Armed Forces sources.

The arrested members of the Shining Path group are part of the cell that attacked Aija (also north of Lima) on 1 June and killed the mayor and a policeman and destroyed public assets. Guns and propaganda material were seized from the arrested MRTA members.

Today the local media reported that in Ayacucho the Armed Forces seized an arsenal of long-and short-barreled guns, explosives, and propaganda material during anti-guerrilla operations carried out during the past 2 weeks in towns in Paranicochas Province, Ayacucho Department. The Army killed 71 "Shining Path members" in the operation.

Acts of violence by terrorist groups have resulted in almost 14,000 mortal victims and material damages amounting to more than $10 billion since May 1980 when the "Shining Path" began its actions.

Terrorists Seriously Injure Intelligence Chief

PY2606215889 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1610 GMT 26 Jun 89

[Text] Lima, 26 Jun (EFE)—It was reported in Lima today that a high-level Peruvian Army intelligence officer was shot by alleged Shining Path terrorists on 25 June. He was seriously injured and was interned at a clinic.

A police source said that four individuals attacked Bernardo Barrios Figueroa while he was in his car. Barrios, 49, sustained four bullet wounds, one of them in the abdomen.

The individuals stole a suitcase that was inside Barrios' car. It has been reported that the suitcase contained important intelligence documents related to the struggle against terrorism.

The source added that Barrios's wife took him to a clinic where the doctors are trying to save his life.

An Antiterrorist Directorate (Dircote) official said that the attack was probably perpetrated by members of a Shining Path Annihilation Squad.

On June, 26 soldiers and 14 policemen died due in acts of political violence.

Uruguay

Menem, Sanguinetti Grant News Conference

PY2706215489 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2220 GMT 25 Jun 89

[Text] Montevideo, 25 Jun (TELAM-Special Envoy)—Following the meeting held with Uruguayan President Jose Maria Sanguinetti, during his first visit to a foreign country after having won the 14-May elections, President-elect Carlos Menem denied he intended to hold a plebiscite—similar to the one held in Uruguay—to solve the military trials issue.

Menem and Sanguinetti had a working luncheon at the Government Palace. Simultaneously, Uruguayan Foreign Minister Luis Barrios Tassano and Argentine Foreign Minister-Designate Domingo Cavallo held a meeting. After the luncheon, Menem and Sanguinetti granted a news conference on the talks they had held.

Menem said they did not discuss the creation of a "Debtors' Club" to negotiate the foreign debt. "We did discuss Latin American integration among Argentina, Uruguay, and Brazil," he said. He added that the meeting with Sanguinetti "was interesting, cordial, polite, pleasant, and free from the ornate jargon, which is characteristic of the diplomatic relations between governments, because Argentina and Uruguay are spiritually and geographically close. Our countries have a common past, a common present, and a common future," he said.

He said the talks were based on "an open agenda," and that they discussed the fishing issue and the sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands, among other topics. Regarding the Malvinas issue, he said: "We hope the UN resolution on decolonization is complied with. We discussed this issue, and hope to continue discussing it later."

Menem was also asked about his plans to govern Argentina. Asked about the military trials issue and whether he believes President Alfonsin will solve this problem, he said: "We do not know whether Alfonsin will solve this problem or not. We are convinced, however, that it must be solved either now or after we are installed."

He added: "You may be sure, however, that there will be no plebiscite. We intend to fully live in a state of law, in which things will continue as they are: the inquests will be handled by the administrative branch, and the trials will be handled by the judicial branch."

Asked whether the military would be granted pardon or amnesty, Menem said: "We still have not considered the possibilities you have just mentioned."

Regarding the privatization policy, he said he is not considering the possibility of privatization "in absolute terms." It would only be conducted "to make the services rendered by the state-owned enterprises more effective." He added that the appointment of Maria Julia Alsogaray, deputy of the Democratic Centrist Union, to head the National Telecommunications Enterprise (ENTEL) "is an answer to what we have been preaching for a long time, and which expresses the demands and yearnings of the Argentine people: a government of national unity."

He said Julio Guillan and Carlos Sanchez, leaders of the telephonic sector workers' union, will contribute to Alsogaray's administration at ENTEL. He said: "They will contribute to make ENTEL more effective and to reduce its deficit. In this we are fundamentally pragmatic because theories no longer work in Argentina. The country is paralyzed, depressed, and experiencing a total and absolute crisis, with a level of hyperinflation never expected by anyone."

Menem said that relations with the CGT [General Conferation of Labor] "are excellent." He said this in response to a question on the failure to rendezvous, a point that "has been excessively exaggerated. There are no problems whatsoever. There simply was a misunderstanding that has already been virtually overcome. There is no drama in the relations between the CGT and the government elected on 14 May," Menem said.

Asked if an early transfer of power could affect the democratic credibility of Argentina, Menem said: "We are going through a different stage in the world. The

government of Raul Alfonsin has become unable to control the situation. While we were discussing the transition, Alfonsin unexpectedly announced his decision to resign on 30 June."

Menem said: "The world cannot misinterpret this decision. The situation got out of control. It went beyond its normal limits and President Alfonsin made this decision."

President Julio Maria Sanguinetti said that relations between the two countries continue "to gradually develop" despite the fact that the Argentine difficulties "stem from macroeconomic imbalances." He said that Uruguayan foreign trade has "experienced difficulties, but as soon as the economic variables in Argentina are adjusted, normalcy will be restored."

The news conference was held at the official residence of the Uruguayan president. The two heads of state were accompanied at the conference by Uruguayan Foreign Minister Luis Barrios Tassano and Argentine Foreign Minister- designate Domingo Cavallo. Menem returned to Buenos Aires after the news conference.

Menem arrived in Uruguay at 1230 aboard a "Lear" jet that he used extensively in his electoral campaign. At Carrasco airport, Menem was met by President Sanguinetti and Argentine ambassador to Uruguay Carlos Perette. The Argentine president-elect was accompanied by his spokesman, Humberto Toledo; his private secretary, Ramon Hernandez; and his assistant Miguel Angel Vico.

PIT-CNT Begins 24-Hour General Strike

PY2706140989 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0930 GMT 27 Jun 89

[Text] Today, 27 June 1989, is the day of the 24-hour general strike organized by the PIT-CNT [Interunion Workers Plenum-National Convention of Workers]. This is why Radio Carve is broadcasting today with personnel from the executive board with assistance from Uruguayan Press Association Personnel.

There is absolute calm today in Montevideo due to the strike. While coming to our Radio Carve studio, we could see that no buses, either urban or interdepartamental, were circulating in Montevideo. The emergency transport service will begin operating at 0700. According to CUTCSA [Uruguayan Bus Company, Inc.], the emergency service will be maintained up to 1900.

We have seen very few taxis circulating in the zone of Punta Carretas, Positos, Cordona, and in downtown Montevideo.

Venezuela

Perez Meets With Visiting Foreign Ministers

PA2206203089 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez met with some of the foreign ministers who are attending the Group of 77 meeting. President Perez met with the representatives of Cuba, Costa Rica, Trinidad and Tobago, Suriname, India, Kenya, and Malaysia. President Perez received Indian External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao and Surinamese Foreign Minister Edwin Sedoc. Minister Sedoc reiterated an invitation made in Manaus [Brazil] for President Perez to visit Suriname. President Perez said that he may visit that country late this year.

President Perez then received Trinidadian and Tobagan Foreign Minister Sahadeo Basdeo, who said that he and President Perez discussed the need to demarcate the maritime areas to facilitate fishing and oil activities in the area.

Following this meeting, Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez met with Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal to discuss the situation in Central America. Madrigal said that Costa Rica is closely following the election process in Nicaragua and described the 19 July OAS meeting as very important. On 19 July, the OAS is expected to issue a strong statement on the situation in Panama.

It is expected that President Perez will continue to meet with other foreign ministers in our country to attend the Group of 77 meeting.

Colombian Foreign Minister on Bilateral Relations

PA2406010889 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Colombian Foreign Minister Julio Londono Paredes has described relations between his country and Venezuela as very good and announced that on 27-28 June border commissions will meet in San Cristobal, Tachira State.

Londono added that he will return to Venezuela on an official visit on 29 June. He is currently in Caracas participating in the Group of 77 Ministerial Conference.

[Begin recording] [Londono] Quite objectively, I believe that relations between Colombia and Venezuela are at the best level they have ever been at, not only over the past few years, but possibly in decades. We are satisfied and this sentiment prevails throughout Colombia. The Colombian people are satisfied with our common relations, and I hope that the Venezuelan people feel the same way.

[Reporter] In your opinion, what factors have contributed toward the improvement of bilateral relations over the past few decades, as you just mentioned?

[Londono] Well, I believe that there have been some favorable conditions and circumstances since President Carlos Andres Perez assumed power. In general, there have been positive factors that have contributed toward improvement of our bilateral relations which, I repeat, gives us great satisfaction. [end recording]

Perez Says IMF Loan Conditioned to Agreements

PA2506155489 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0404 GMT 25 Jun 89

[Text] Puerto Cabello, Venezuela, 24 Jun (EFE)—Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez today reported, in this city located 150 kilometers northwest from Caracas, that the IMF loan to his country is conditioned on plans agreed upon with the financial institution.

Perez, who is in this port city on a visit, reported: "Agreements with creditor banks and the IMF have already been concluded." He also said his government will receive $6 billion.

He said, however, that this year Venezuela will receive only $1.6 billion of the IMF's $4.814 billion loan.

The president explained: "We cannot use this money as we like because it is closely linked to accords that Venezuela has reached with international organizations."

Perez clarified that this "should not chafe us in the least" because it does not entail "wavering sovereignty. This agreement is good for Venezuela because it will force us to handle our resources more responsibly."

Further, he said that, with these loans, the country will leave behind the difficult stage that marked implementation of his economic policy "when the treasury did not yet have the required money."

Perez stated that the Venezuelan currency, the bolivar, is getting stronger and that this, in turn, makes the country's productive sectors more confident, thus opening the way for greater security.

Finally, the president warned about the danger of thinking that "years of plenty" have started and pointed out: "We are still passing through a difficult time."

Customs Commission Announces New Tariff

PA2606220089

[Editorial Report] Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish in its 18 June edition carries on page 2-6 two 1,000 - word articles on the new customs tariff announced by the Customs Commission affecting automotive, chemical, textile, medical, and agro-industrial products.

The first article states that the new customs tariff establishes "a ceiling of 80 percent of the value of finished products, a 50-percent ceiling on semifinished products, and a 30-percent ceiling on raw materials." The article adds that "an 80-percent ceiling has been established for the following: clothing, cosmetics, automobiles, television sets, freezers, and household appliances." Likewise, "the new tariff eliminated the monopoly on importing steel, cotton, petrochemical products, and raw materials for the plastics industry."

The second article provides a list of banned import items, which includes live animals, animal products, live plants, vegetables and edible roots, fruits, coffee, cereals, lards and cooking oils, cooked meats, confections, cacao, cooked cereals, cooked vegetables, cooked fruits, alcoholic beverages, tobacco, marble, explosives, cosmetics, leather products, furs, lumber, cork, metallic textiles, rugs, wool, clothes, ceramic products, jewelry, household appliances, railroad cars and materials, musical instruments, watches, photography and motion picture equipment, carved decorations, toys, and assorted manufactured goods.

Senate Appoints New Ambassador to USSR

PA2406222989 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 15 Jun 89 pp 1-15

[Summary] The Venezuelan Senate yesterday approved the appointment of economist Jesus Alberto Fernandez as the new Venezuelan ambassador to the USSR.

Guyana

Opposition Reacts to Hoyte's U.S. Visit

FL2306151489 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 23 Jun 89

[Text] The opposition People's Progressive Party [PPP] has criticized the current visit to the United States by Guyanese President Desmond Hoyte.

The PPP yesterday called the trip a waste of time and has called on Mr Hoyte to institute political reforms. According to the PPP, necessary reforms should include free and fair elections and what was termed a truly representative government.

The opposition called Mr Hoyte's trip a begging appeal to President George Bush.

Six Unions Hope To Settle Differences Soon

FL2206172089 Bridgetown CANA in English 1431 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, June 22, CANA—The Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Guyana (FITUG) hopes to meet shortly to patch up differences between two of its members—both sugar unions—and account for money received to help striking sugar and bauxite workers. The two matters have been pending for

nearly a month but at least three scheduled meetings during this period were aborted for a variety of reasons. The latest was scheduled for last Wednesday but that was called off because representatives of the two bauxite unions were reportedly engaged in negotiations with the management of the state bauxite company.

Federation secretary, Birchmore Philadelphia, told CANA Wednesday the meeting is now likely to be held next week. While concern about the delay has been expressed in some FITUG circles, the federation's press and publicity secretary, Leslie Melville, says it is "perhaps, a good thing" since it gives the parties concerned an opportunity to "cool down".

The differences between the two sugar unions, the Guyana Agricultural and General Workers' Union (GAWN) and the National Association of Agricultural, Commercial and Industrial Employees (NAACIE) have escalated into a full scale was of words and is threatening to rent apart the eight-month old federation. The differences were sparked more than a month ago over the manner in which seven-week strikes in the sugar and bauxite industries ended.

NAACIE is contending that the strikes were ended prematurely and in an undemocratic manner. However, GAWN, with the support of the two bauxite unions which are also members of FITUG, accused NAACIE and the University of Guyana Workers' Union (UGWU) of breaching a democratically arrived at decision of the federation to call off the strikes which were staged to protest against the government's austerity economic measures.

GAWU also accused NAACIE of attempting to bribe GAWU members to get them not to return to work. But NAACIE responded with claims that hundreds of GAWU members were disenchanted with the GAWU leadership headed by opposition leader, Dr. Cheddi Jagan of the people's Progressive Party (PPP) as honorary president, and were keen on joining [words indistinct] four weeks ago in a bid to settle the dispute but failed to make much headway. Melville is optimistic, however, that the matter would be resolved at the coming meeting. "It was, really, a very unfortunate development but we are hoping to dispatch with it early..." Melville told CANA.

The effectiveness of the federation has already been weakened by a recent decision of the Guyana Public Service Union (GPSU), now under new leadership, to withdraw its membership. "In addition, Federation President George Daniels who left the country since early April has not returned and while he is reportedly in the United States seeking medical attention several FITUG executive members told CANA he has not been in touch with them and there is not certainly whether he will be returning. Head of the Clerical and Commercial Workers Union (CCWU) Gordon Todd is acting as president.

Meanwhile, as the six unions prepare for the meeting, one executive member told CANA that the issue of what happened to money sent from overseas for the strikes is sure to come up for consideration. The FITUG executive member charged that the large sums talked about are not reflected in FITUG's records. He also said that during the strikes, it was evident that some persons had access to "a lot of funds" which were being distributed amongst striking workers—including workers on sugar estates.

There was also some talk about being received from the Barbados-based Caribbean Conference of Churches (CCC), he said. Nanda Gopaul, the federation's treasurer who is also general secretary of NAACIE, told CANA Tuesday, however, that only a small sum of money was received from overseas and all has been accounted for in statements circulated to members of the FITUG executive. Neither Gopaul nor Melville would name the overseas sources of funding nor the amounts received.

Melville said he had heard reports about large amounts of money being received from overseas but he was not aware of any big sums being channelled to FITUG. He confirmed that consideration of the federation's financial situation is on the agenda for the coming meeting.

GEC Power Barge Plagued With Difficulties

FL2306150289 Bridgetown CANA in English 2258 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, June 22, CANA— A reconditioned power barge which arrived here three weeks ago to relieve an acute power crisis, is being plagued by a series of problems and is yet to be fully commissioned, according to media reports here.

The barge was acquired on a U.S.2.5 million lease arrangement with an option to buy after two years.

Officials of the state-run Guyana Electricity Corporation (GEC) could not be reached Wednesday for comments on the situation. But media reports here said there are major problems with the barge which should be able to generate up to 10 mega watts (mw).

The privately-owned "ST ABROEK NEWS" newspaper reported sources at the GEC as saying only one of the four power-generating units aboard the barge was working well. That unit is reportedly generating 2.3 mw. A second unit is producing 1.5 mw but experiencing "severe over-heating problems". The other two are said to be "out of order".

GEC engineers had inspected the barge in the United States before it sailed for Guyana from a Louisana port. And, since its arrival here it has been subjected to a series of additional tests in preperation for its commissioning originally scheduled for two weeks ago.

However, the problems were discovered during this series of pre-commissioning tests, supervised by an engineer representing the Texas-based supplier of the diesel-powered barge. "STABROEK NEWS" reported that when one of the out-of-order units was being tested last week, its fan broke and it was found that it was badly rusted and had been "patched".

When the fourth unit was being tested, problems were detected in its fan belt system.

The paper also reported sources at the GEC as saying the problems were not likely to be remedied before another month.

Suriname

Cabinet Supports Talks With Rebel Group

FL2406124589 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1230 GMT 24 Jun 89

[Text] Suriname's cabinet says it completely backs an agreement between a Parliamentary delegation and the country's rebel forces. As a result, the Surinamese Government said yesterday it will hold talks with rebel leader Ronnie Brunswijk's jungle commando group.

President Ramsewak Shankar will soon name a delegation to conduct the talks. The agreement also calls for an immediate stop to hostilities between government forces and the rebels.

National Assembly Approves Regional Bodies Law

FL2206212789 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] The National Assembly has yesterday approved the law on regional bodies unanimously by 36 votes. The law regulates, among others, the installation and functioning of districts and [words indistinct] councils. These regional bodies must see to it that the interests of the districts and interior residents are served correctly.

As insisted by the National Assembly, however, some clauses were removed from the draft law which were contrary to the Constitution. These clauses were in relation to the way a regional commissioner is appointed and the way the district regulations are published.

Justice Minister Jules Ajodhia, who defended the draft law in the assembly, said the regional administration is an instrument to achieve a real participation of the people in the decision-making process. [Words indistinct] administration consideration will be given as much as possible, said Regional Development Minister [words indistinct] administration forms must be changed, said the minister.

The law on regional bodies will take effect a month after the announcement by the president.

Minister Announces Radio Boskopu Reorganization

FL2206213189 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 22 Jun 89

[Text] Regional Development Minister Werner Ureedzaam has yesterday, during discussions on the law on regional bodies, announced the reorganization of Radio Boskopu. This governmental medium was founded in 1986 and has branches in six districts. According to Ureedzaam, measures will be taken so that the stations can cover wider areas. The (?level) of qualified personnel and the [word indistinct] infrastructure will also be tackled. The minister, furthermore, wants to make housing accommodations available in the districts for employees of the stations.

Ureedzaam yesterday emphasized that Radio Boskopu is the property of the state and must represent the government's policy. Therefore, government institutions may not be criticized, said the minister. According to him, structures must, therefore, be created to control this. A few months ago, Minister Ureedzaam had already prohibited the Boskopu radios to criticize government institutions.